

Summary of Impact

David South Consulting
1997 to 2014



“People are the real wealth of a nation.”
UNDP Human Development Report 1990

David South Consulting (davidsouthconsulting.com) brings together two decades' experience in health and international development. It includes groundbreaking work in Mongolia for the United Nations during its late 1990s transition and economic and social crisis (called a role model for the wider UN), as well as work in UN missions around the world (Ukraine, South Africa and Turkmenistan), and consulting for various international agencies (World Bank, UNDP, Harvard Institute for International Development, USAID, NHS, UNICEF). Since 2007, this has included work guiding the United Nations embracing of South-South solutions as a development paradigm (southerninnovator.org), while influencing the UN development programme's (UNDP) Strategic Plan to include innovation as a new problem-solving tool. The magazine Southern Innovator has been the flagship brand to do this.

A common thread has been the ability to collaborate with global professionals to supercharge their work and impact. This includes pioneering and award-winning work with the UK's top children's hospital and child health research institute; and twice working with senior UN officials on transforming how the UN views its work, championing innovative approaches. In 2001, the UN was awarded the Nobel Prize for “their work for a better organized and more peaceful world”. Communications achievements, as done in Mongolia from 1997 to 1999, were cited as integral to this success. Another thread has been the ability to take a complex brief and deliver concrete actions and results that inspire others and lead the way forward.

David South Consulting has, over time, built up substantial experience in placing design at the heart of health and human development and believes this is the secret to a greater chance of success in a turbulent, 21st-century world.

i UNDP Mongolia Development Portal:
www.flickr.com/photos/15195144@N06/sets/72157614998506453/detail/

GOSH Child Health Portal:
www.tinyurl.com/m3jmnfu

Southern Innovator:
www.southerninnovator.org

David South:
www.davidsouthconsulting.com

Designing Change for Health and Human Development



i **Human development: Definition**
Human development is defined as the process of enlarging people's freedoms and opportunities and improving their well-being. Human development is about the real freedom ordinary people have to decide who to be, what to do, and how to live.
Source: Measure of America (measureofamerica.org)

1 1997-1999 UNDP Mongolia Communications Office.



2 2001-2003 GOSH Child Health Portal.



3 2007-2014 Global South Innovators + Solutions.



- Influential stories
- Clear graphic design
- Sharing and connecting online

Timeline:

High Impact Health and Human Development: 1997 to 2014

1 UNDP Mongolia Communications Office. Called a role model for the UN.

GOSH Child Health Portal. Winner of 2003 Childnet Award; called one of the "three most admired websites in the UK public and voluntary sectors."

3 UN Office for South-South Cooperation. Championing innovation in the global South through two media: e-newsletter Development Challenges, South-South Solutions and magazine Southern Innovator.

1997-1999

2000-2001

2001-2003

2004-2006

2007-2014

Advising UN mission in Ukraine.

Consulting with UN missions in Mongolia, South Africa and Turkmenistan.



Dates: 1997 to 2014

davidsouthconsulting.com

Comments

"Great economic and business reporting! Very helpful for us."

Africa Renewal, Africa Section, Strategic Communications Division, United Nations Department of Public Information

"I liked your latest Southern innovator! Always inspiring."

Joana Breidenbach, better-place.org, Berlin, Germany

"Beautiful, inspiring magazine from UNDP on South-South innovation. Heart is pumping adrenaline and admiration just reading it."

Peggy Lee on Pinterest.com

Cable and Wireless Childnet Award

(2003): Called Children First "an outstanding example of how a hospital can create quality, authoritative information on issues relating to health in a fun, child-centered and accessible way."

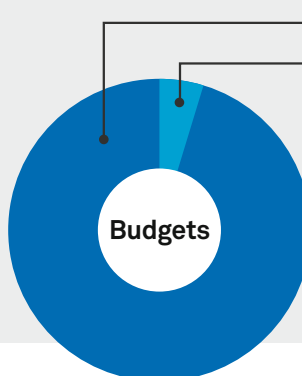
ORGANIZATIONS INFLUENCED

NHS (National Health Service)

Budget (2002-2003): US \$100bn (£65.4bn)
Source: The Guardian

UNDP (United Nations Development Programme)

Budget (2014): US\$5bn (6,400 staff)
Source: IPS, UN System Human Resources Statistics

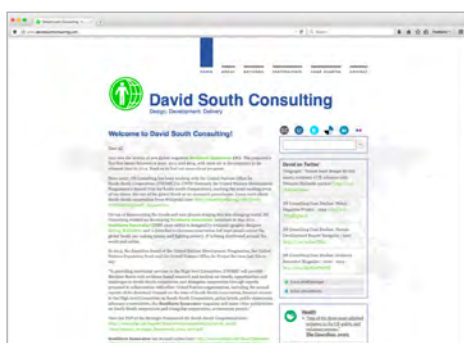


US\$100bn
US\$5bn

US\$27.5m

UNDP Mongolia

Budget for Partnership for Progress: US\$27.5m
Source: Partnership for Progress



Services

- Innovation
- Strategy
- Project management
- Content
- Troubleshooting, crisis, resilience



i A great way to verify past Internet work is to use the archive.org engine. Just type in the web address and archive.org will display the historical screen grabs from a website since it first launched.

g Designed and laid out in Iceland using 100 per cent renewable energy.

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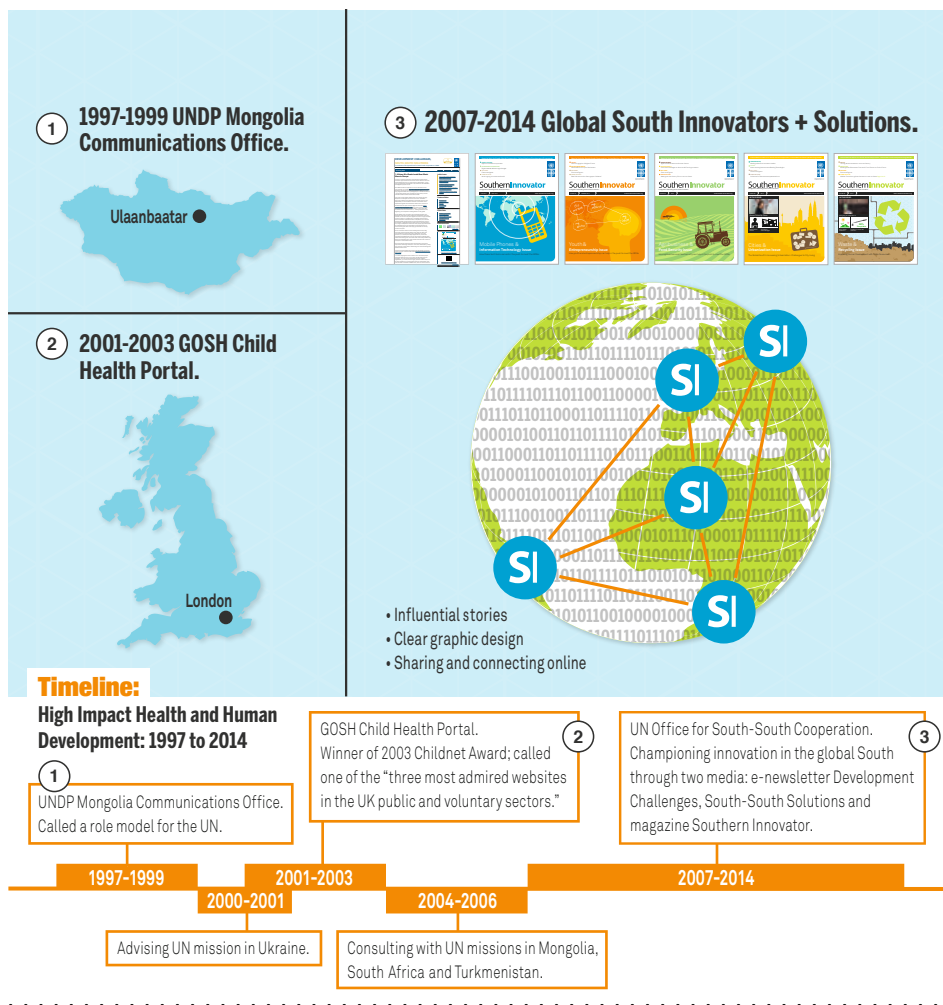
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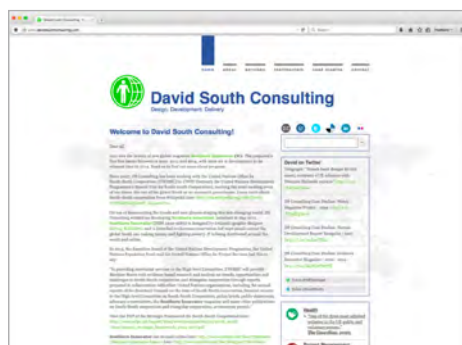
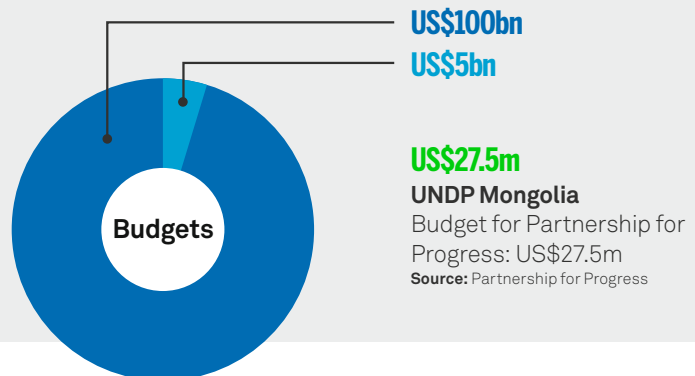
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Summary of Impact

Southern Innovator 2012 to 2014

SI

“People are the real wealth of a nation.”
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Southern Innovator (SI) is the world's first magazine to connect innovation and human development. Southern Innovator does not just tell stories, it shows how innovations work and connects readers with the contacts and resources they need to replicate or modify the innovations for their local conditions.

SI gathers the data, trends and stories relevant to the global South's innovators and distributes it in myriad ways intended to reach as wide an audience as possible, including using social media, mobile and online media.

Since the first issue in 2011, SI has been able to use the global South's rising number of mobile and Internet readers to help spread ideas. It has – along with its sister publication, e-newsletter Development Challenges, South-South Solutions – focused on, and drawn attention to, a rising 21st-century global innovator culture.

In five issues with five themes published from 2011 to 2014, Southern Innovator has encouraged the wider United Nations and others to embrace innovation to solve development challenges – and the impact is visible around the world, from books to media stories to a strategic repositioning of the UN's development agency, UNDP. SI's relationship with the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), which acts as the high-level adviser to the UN's Secretary-General on South-South cooperation, has helped raise the profile of the innovators and their ideas featured in the magazine.

But what matters most is SI readers: as one reader on Pinterest.com said: “Beautiful, inspiring magazine from UNDP on South-South innovation. Heart is pumping adrenaline and admiration just reading it”.

Designing Change for Human Development



Messaging and Reinforcement of Concepts and Knowledge

Infographics

The stories and ideas captured in the e-newsletter and magazine are further reinforced through various visual tools. To help readers grasp complex trends, data or events, infographics are used to give a simple snapshot and big-picture view of what has happened and is happening.

Illustrations

Illustrations serve several goals: they encapsulate a story's innovation in a simple, visual form; they give a 'blueprint' of how a particular innovation works; and they make the reader see how the different pieces of the innovation puzzle fit together.

Iconic images

Iconic images throughout the magazine reinforce the Southern Innovator cultural message, showing how technology aids in poverty reduction.



Innovator: Definition

A person who introduces new methods, ideas, or products.

Source: Oxford Dictionary of English



Southern Innovator: Definition

An innovator from the global South.

Source: Southern Innovator

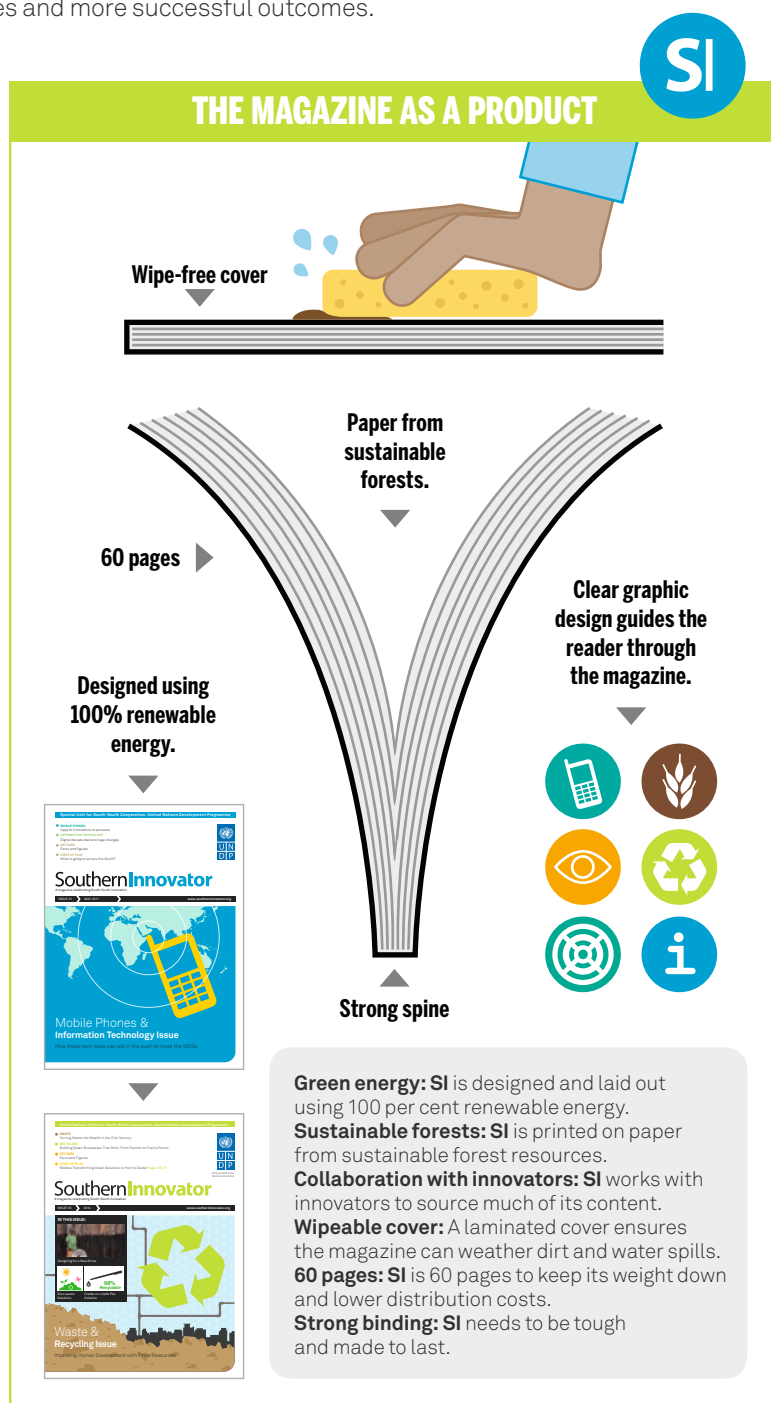
Southern Innovator

southerninnovator.org
southerninnovator.com

Human Development and Innovation: The Methodology behind the Magazine

All the content in the magazine is chosen for its relevance to human development. **SI** tries to give readers the resources they require to replicate or adapt innovations featured in the magazine. Originally inspired by the impact of mobile phone and information technologies on Africa, **Southern Innovator** features the innovations and innovators in an expanding 21st-century global innovator culture, where people are using new information technologies to solve problems and improve their lives and their communities.

One insight gleaned from the hundreds of hours of research that goes into the magazine (by an editor with two decades of experience working in international development) is the importance of good design to successful innovation. It is also key to successful human development. The magazine seeks to set a good example by the way it is put together and presented. It seeks to show that good design leads to better use of resources and more successful outcomes.



Comments

On Southern Innovator

"Btw, I really enjoyed reading them, impressive work & a great resource. Looking forward to Issue 6."

Jeannine Lemaire

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Southern Innovator: 2015 to 2017

Set up to help countries achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the years approaching the target deadline of 2015, **Southern Innovator** highlighted three things which were having a large – but often under-reported – impact on development: the rapid take-up of information technologies, in particular mobile phones, across the global South; increasing trade and contact between countries of the global South on the back of rising economic growth; and the power of innovation – as expressed by the people featured in the magazine – to overcome development challenges, often under the most demanding country conditions.

As people debate the future of development goals post-2015, it is clear that **Southern Innovator**, rather than fading away, needs to scale-up its impact. Since its launch in 2011, the magazine has proven an influential force for positive change and a source of inspiration.

"You never change things by fighting the existing reality. To change something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete." Buckminster Fuller



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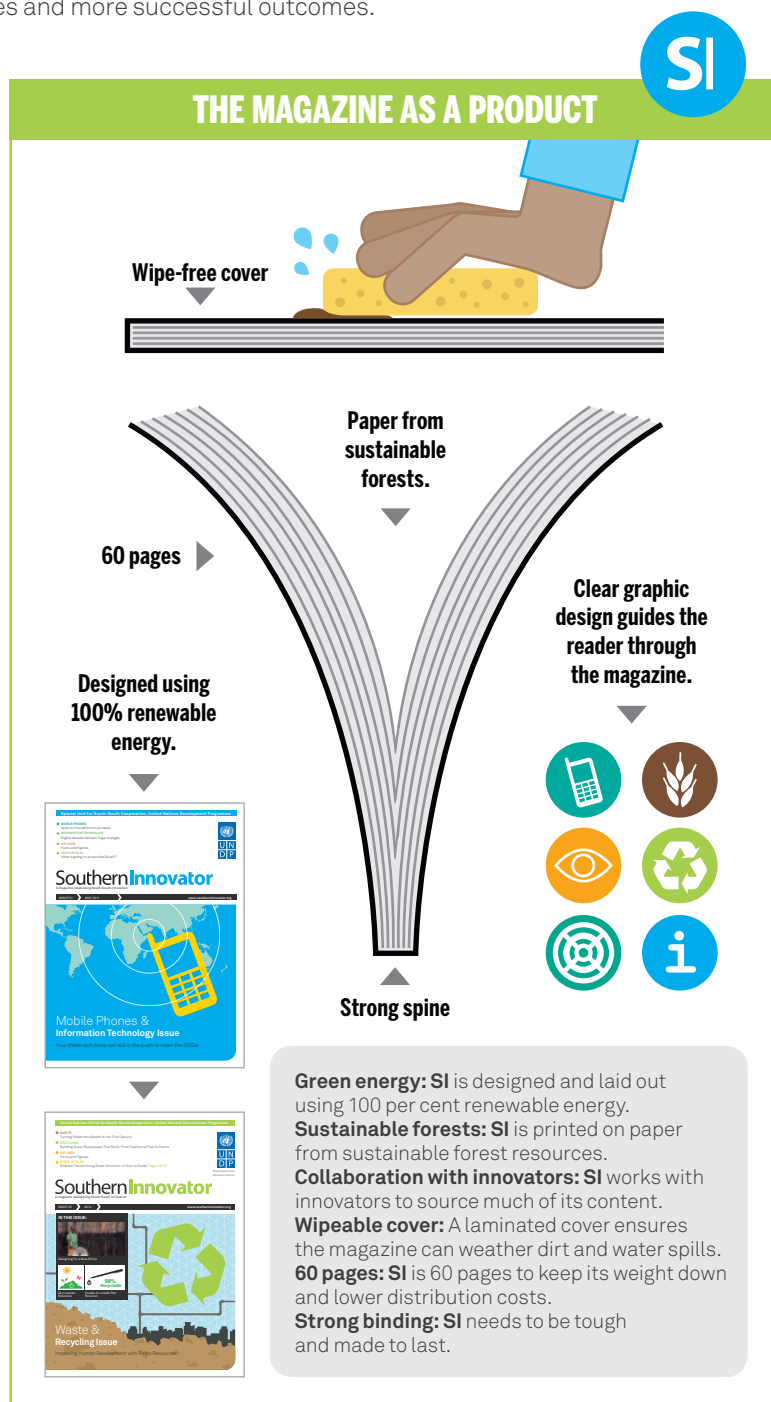
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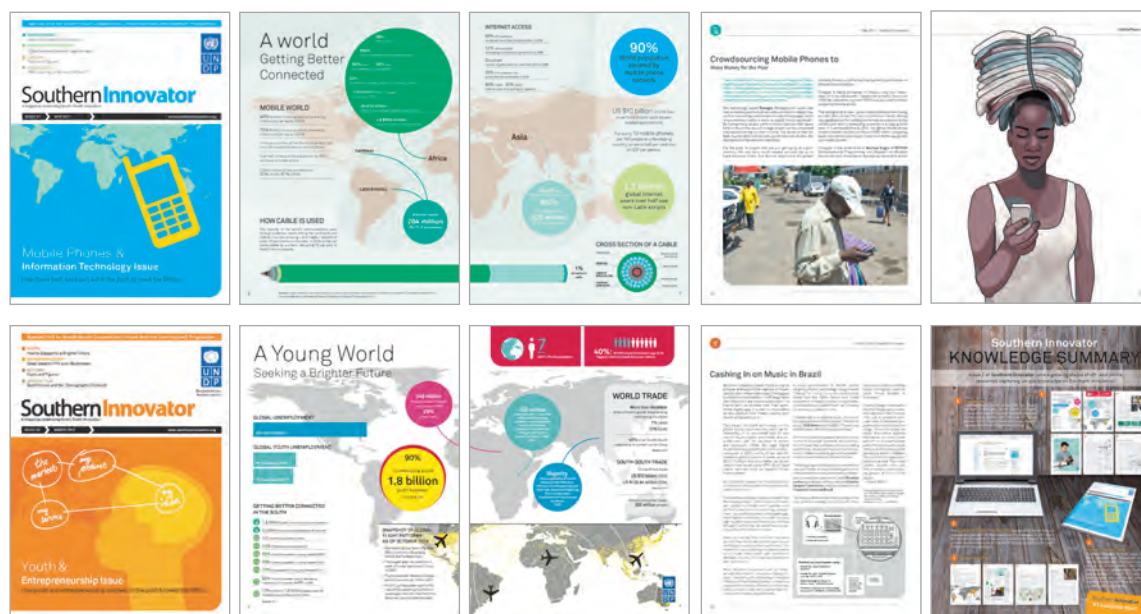
“People are the real wealth of a nation.”
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The e-newsletter Development Challenges, South-South Solutions has had a significant impact since its launch in 2006. Along with its sister publication – Southern Innovator magazine and its online archive – it has re-shaped perceptions about the global South, and Africa in particular.

Southern Innovator magazine emerged from the insights and discoveries gained in researching Development Challenges, South-South Solutions. The e-newsletter has tracked trends across the global South and discovered its ballooning numbers of innovators, pioneers and entrepreneurs who are tackling the challenges of poverty and development in the 21st century.

One of the stand-out achievements of the e-newsletter and magazine has been their contribution to the rise of mobile phones and information technology in the global South’s development, including Africa. The e-newsletter was acknowledged as one of the first forums to regularly cover this emerging trend and champion its pioneers and first movers. Southern Innovator magazine’s first issue on mobile phone and information technologies, is now one of the top online resources chronicling this trend.

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Iconic images

Iconic images throughout the magazine reinforce the *Southern Innovator* cultural message, showing how technology aids in poverty reduction.



Infographics: Definition

Information graphics or infographics are graphic visual representations of information, data or knowledge. These graphics present complex information quickly and clearly, such as in signs, maps, journalism, technical writing, and education. With an information graphic, computer scientists, mathematicians, and statisticians develop and communicate concepts using a single symbol to process information.

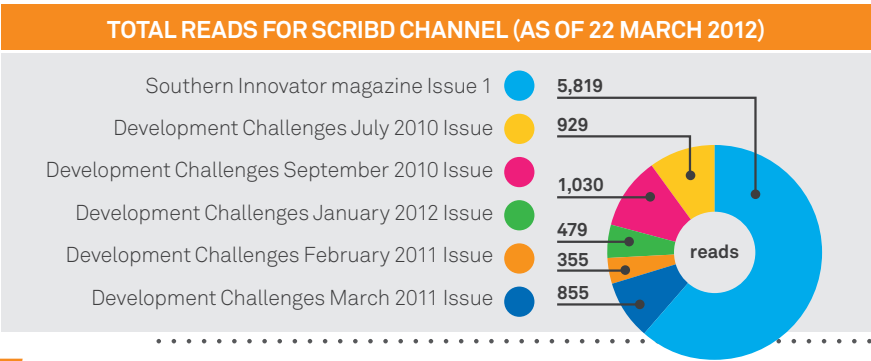
Source: Wikipedia

Social Media and Online Resource-sharing

As Internet-based social media evolved from 2008 onwards, it became clear that these online channels were an excellent way to share the stories in the e-newsletter and the magazine. Readers can read ‘Tweets’ on the Twitter platform or bookmark stories to keep a running archive of the stories. This has enabled the stories to reach other media, such as mobile phones, smart phones and e-reading devices such as tablet computers.

A complete archive of the e-newsletters and the magazine have been kept on the open-source Scribd document platform (a favourite place for government agencies and public agencies to post official documents, reports and correspondence to better facilitate transparency and knowledge-sharing).

This has also proven to be an effective strategy for reaching out across Africa.



Search Terms + Memes



South-South solutions + innovators

Memes: Innovators culture



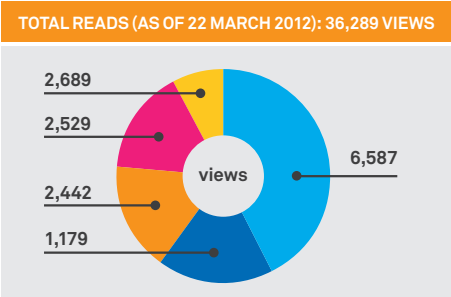
South-South solutions mobile phones + information technology

Memes: Technology culture



South-South solutions

Memes: Resilience and knowledge-sharing culture



Meme: Definition
A meme is “an idea, behavior or style that spreads from person to person within a culture.” **Source:** Wikipedia

Comments on e-newsletter and magazine

On *Development Challenges*, *South-South Solutions*

“Great economic and business reporting! Very helpful for us.” *Africa Renewal*, **Africa Section, Strategic Communications Division, United Nations Department of Public Information**

“Congratulations on another great newsletter that’s packed with fascinating information! I really enjoy getting it each month.” **Whitney Harrelson, Making Cents, Washington D.C.**

“I just went over your June newsletter. It’s very well done and far reaching. Congratulations!” **Violette Ruppanner, Director, 3D -> Trade – Human Rights – Equitable Economy, Geneva, Switzerland.**

On *Southern Innovator* magazine

“What a tremendous magazine your team has produced! It’s a terrific *tour de force* of what is interesting, cutting edge and relevant in the global mobile/ICT space... Really looking forward to what you produce in issues #2 and #3. This is great, engaging, relevant and topical stuff.” **Rose Shuman, Founder and CEO, Open Mind and Question Box.**

CASE STUDY: Now Public Reader Response Test

In 2007, a new form of communication emerged on the Internet: crowd-sourced media. This allowed ordinary citizens to contribute stories and images to an online platform that would then be read by readers around the world. Over time, trusted “reporters” who got their facts right would build their profile and gain greater respect with the reading audience. This seemed an ideal place to test the reader reaction to the stories featured in *Development Challenges*, *South-South Solutions*. From 2008 to 2010, the stories were regularly posted on the Now Public “crowd-powered” media platform and reader responses were tracked and evaluated.

The stories were then refined to make sure that the information was useful to the readers and that they understood the messages being communicated.

Fact: 336,289 views for 201 stories posted

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Innovations in Green Economy: Top Three Agenda

The transition to a green economy has reached a crossroads: while multilateral global initiatives have been long-running and complex, the idea of a green economy still seems fragile and achieving it far from certain. In the face of the ravages of the global economic crisis that has raged since 2007/2008, countries are now trying to roll back their green pledges or slow the pace of transition.

This exposes a dilemma: a perception that a green economy is in conflict with economic growth, prosperity and the advance of human development, particularly in developing countries seeking to make rapid gains in reducing poverty and building a middle class, consumer society.

Three things need to be foremost in the minds of those who care about creating a global green economy in the 21st century: innovation in design,

in market prices and in business models. I think these three factors will be the deciding elements in whether green technologies are taken up quickly and used by large numbers of people to improve their lives.

The green option needs to always be the more appealing, cheaper option that also improves living standards. Happily, many people are doing this all around the world - you just may not have heard of them yet (unless you are reading Southern Innovator magazine that is).

As editor of the magazine Southern Innovator since 2011, I have had the privilege to meet, interview and see first-hand green economy innovators across the global South and profile them in the magazine. What has stood out for me is this: the ones who have achieved sustainable success have put a great deal of effort into design - how the technology is made, what it looks

like and how it is used, how efficiently it is made and distributed - while also thinking through the business case for their work and how to make it appealing to others.

We have tried to apply this thinking to the magazine as well, by using clear and modern design with bright, eye-pleasing colours, and by choosing to use 100 per cent renewable energy (much of it from geothermal sources) for the magazine's design and layout and to have it printed on paper from sustainable forest sources.

The fourth issue of Southern Innovator (www.southerninnovator.org), on cities and urbanization, launched in October at the Global South-South Development Expo 2013 in Nairobi, Kenya. It profiles many practical initiatives and innovators that are currently building green homes, communities and even whole cities. The magazine's fifth issue will focus on the theme of waste and recycling and hopes to be a one-stop source of inspiration to better use the finite resources of planet earth. ■

- David South, Editor,
Southern Innovator, UK



Southern Innovator's fourth issue on Cities and Urbanization, shows how innovators are handling the largest migration to urban areas in humanity history.

Further Resources:

1. Southern Innovator Magazine Issue 4: Cities and Urbanization <http://www.scribd.com/doc/133622315/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-4-Cities-and-Urbanization>
2. Development Challenges, South-South Solutions e-newsletter www.southerninnovator.org
3. Mongolian Green Book <http://tinyurl.com/p4szz9l>
4. Environmental Public Awareness Handbook: Case Studies and Lessons Learned in Mongolia <http://tinyurl.com/obuf2xz>

South-South Cooperation for Cities in Asia

The coming wave of technological innovations aimed at global South cities will dominate civic debates whether people wish it or not. Already, futuristic, 21st-century cities are being built around Asia from scratch. I had the privilege of visiting a couple of them in 2012 while researching the fourth issue of our magazine, *Southern Innovator* (<http://www.scribd.com/SouthernInnovator>). Each city had a different focus for its construction – one was seeking to be an "eco-city" and the other one called itself a "smart city," focused on becoming a regional business and technology hub. Both aimed to use the latest information technologies to make the way Asian cities operate on a day-to-day basis smarter – and greener.

Large information technology companies – including India's Infosys (infosys.com) – have their sights set on selling all sorts of technological solutions to common problems of urban living. This aspiring revolution is built on two foundations: One is the Internet of Things – in which everyday objects are connected to the Internet via microchips. The other is Big Data, the vast quantities of data being generated by all the mobile phones and other electronic devices people use these days.

Much of this new technology will be manufactured in Asia, and not just that – it will also be developed and designed in Asia, often to meet the challenges of urban Asia.

By their nature, cities are fluid places. People come and go for work and pleasure, and successful cities are magnets for people of all backgrounds seeking new opportunities. This fluidity puts stress

on cities and leads to the constant complaints familiar to any urban dweller – inadequate transport, traffic jams, air pollution, poor housing, and a high cost of living.

If handled well and with imagination, new information technologies can ensure Asian cities do more than pay lip service to aspirations to improve human development. They can make cities resilient places – able to bounce back from disasters, whether man-made or natural.

During the late 1990s, I saw first-hand the pressures placed on one Asian city, Mongolia's capital, Ulaanbaatar. The country endured the worst peacetime economic collapse since World War II while confronting the wrenching social and economic stresses of switching from a command economy during Communism to a free-market democracy. The city's population grew quickly as rural economies collapsed and poverty shot upwards. I can only imagine now how the response could have been different with the technologies available today.

In 2010, I interviewed one of the editors of the *Cities for All* book,

Charlotte Mathivet (<http://globalurbanist.com/2010/08/24/cities-for-all-shows-how-the-worlds-poor-are-building-ties-across-the-global-south>), and she stressed the importance of South-South cooperation to ensuring cities are good places to live for everyone.

"A lot of social initiatives based on the right to the city are coming from these 'new cities of the South,'" Mathivet said. "The book highlights original social initiatives: protests and organizing of the urban poor, such as the pavement dwellers' movements in Mumbai where people with nothing, living on the pavements of a very big city, organise themselves to struggle for their collective rights, just as the park dwellers did in Osaka."

Recently, an Indian restaurant uploaded to the Internet a video of what it claimed to be the first drone delivering a pizza in an Indian city. While this may or may not be a practical solution to traffic congestion, the subsequent negative fallout – angry police and public officials – from this use of new technology highlights the promise and perils of innovating in the real



Southern Innovator's fifth issue on Waste and Recycling (<http://www.scribd.com/doc/207579744/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-5-Waste-and-Recycling>), shows how innovators are tackling the challenge of improving human development on a planet with finite resources and a growing population.

world of Asian cities (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/blogs-news-from-elsewhere-27537120>).

Micro electronics are becoming cheaper and more powerful by the month. Small businesses armed with a only laptop computer, access to the Internet and/or mobile phone networks, and cloud computing services, can offer very powerful business and public services solutions. And sharing solutions across the global South via information technologies has never been easier.

The U.S. Pentagon published various reports and studies in the 2000s forecasting a dark future for cities in the global South. As author Mike Davis revealed in his seminal work, *Planet of Slums* (<http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/1844670228/nationbooks08>), the Pentagon saw the developing world's cities as the "battlespace of the twenty-first century." It imagined sprawling, crime-ridden cities full of poverty and slums and needing tiny drones and robots darting back and forth, keeping an eye on everything and suppressing unrest. This threat-based view of future cities is one to be avoided. It is possible, through the right application of quick solutions to the challenges that arise as cities grow, to turn to cooperation across the cities of the global South to avoid this pessimistic fate. ■

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STATE RISK PROFILE

Urban Risks in Uttar Pradesh



India is one of the major countries which witness natural and human induced disasters very frequently. Urban areas concentrate disaster risk due to the aggregation of people, infrastructure and assets, urban expansion, and inadequate management.

Uttar Pradesh is one of the largest states of India. About 22 percent of states' population resides in urban centers. There are 915 towns / cities as per Census, 2011. There has been 30 percent increase in the number of towns and cities during 2001 to 2011. There are 630 urban local bodies in the state viz. 13 Municipal Corporations, 193 Nagar Palika Parishads, and 424 Nagar Panchayats. Out of 13 Municipal Corporations, 5 Municipal Corporations fall under high seismic zone, 6 Municipal Corporations in moderate seismic risk zone, and 2 Municipal Corporations are in low and very low seismic risk zones. The state has been divided into 4 geographical regions viz. Central, Western, Eastern, and Bundelkhand.

Western region is more urbanised while Eastern region is flood prone and Bundelkhand region is drought prone. A large segment of urban population in the state resides in slums, peri urban areas, squatters and informal settlements. These settlements are often located in low laying areas prone to direct and indirect risks due to environmental degradation, including changes in the climate and lack of basic urban services. The urban poor living in slums and peri-urban areas and informal settlements are vulnerable as they reside in high-risk areas and faulty shelters, having limited access to basic and emergency services. Moreover, over exploitation of ground water resources in urban centers for quenching the thirst of increasing urban population, changing lifestyle, and water uses for various purposes is cause of concern. Due to unregulated housing and building construction, lack of proper drainage and sewer network and also ineffective functioning of sewerage system in the state, urban centers are at high risks. The blockage and choking in drainage and

sewer system leads to water logging and flash flood in urban centers.

Increasing urbanization, expansion of habitat into unsuitable vulnerable areas, higher population density, higher housing density, vulnerable housing and buildings construction, non engineered unsafe construction, and aging buildings and other infrastructure are some of the factors that have increased the vulnerability of hazards and disasters in urban areas. Growing urbanization is posing serious environmental concerns in India in terms of changing land use pattern, increasing carbon emissions, solid waste generation and its disposal, air and water pollution and poor sanitation amenities. Major challenge for cities in the face of rapid population growth is to maintain sustainability within the social, economic and environmental dimensions. The accelerated and uncontrolled urban growth has contributed to the ecological transformation of the cities and their immediate surroundings resulting in flash floods and water scarcity. Furthermore other factors depending on the local circumstances contribute to the urban vulnerability, hazards and risks.

Cities are hubs of the intensive resource demand, environmental degradation and greenhouse gas emissions. However, cities may play a critical role in promoting low carbon development through use of renewable energy, energy efficiency, green buildings and mitigating emissions from urban transport. The immediate problems of states' cities relate to inadequate institutional arrangements for solid waste management, drainage, sewage treatment and disposal and sanitation services. Thus, it is imperative to improve the municipal services, particularly sanitation services and urban local governments adopt the integrated urban planning for climate resilience and addressing the environmental problems. ■

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Background Paper

Southern Innovator and the Growing Global Innovation Culture

July 2013



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Introduction

The topic of innovation is ever more frequently mentioned by policy-makers and politicians. Whole business schools dedicate themselves to the subject, while governments and international organizations now often set aside a department or division dedicated to innovation. The European Commission's Innovation Union is one example (http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/index_en.cfm).

This paper argues that the rise of a global innovation culture is not just hype, a marketing catch-phrase or the latest piece of government jargon. It is really happening and it is snowballing with the aid of the communications revolution. It is interlinking with increasing global trade links, extending to what were some of the most remote corners of the earth. Increasing urbanization is drawing people in to new circumstances and causing chaos in many lives, but also spawning challenges that spur people to seek solutions.

The current global economic crisis which started in 2007/2008 seems to have accelerated this tendency as many question the validity and sustainability of the current economic paradigm and global structure. The over-reliance on debt to create prosperity (from housing bubbles to credit cards) has exposed the failure of many institutions, governments and companies - small and large - to innovate. The use of debt - rather than innovation - to create economic growth and prosperity leads to innumerable problems. Resources are not used efficiently (a serious problem on a finite planet with a growing population heading past 7 billion) (UN), and technological and scientific advances are held back as there is no incentive to change old ways when money is easy and cheap.

While many countries of the global North, particularly in Europe and North America, have experienced a severe economic crisis since 2007, the countries of the global South - while not in any way immune to the problems experienced by the global North - are experiencing a profound perception change.

The space created by the crisis in the North has directed investment wealth and attention towards the global South and emerging market countries. One of the more amusing manifestations of this has been the endless - and very creative - deployment of acronyms for each new investment opportunity, BRIC, CIVETS, etc. Countries and regions which were subject to decades of negative publicity - or just completely ignored - were now 'sexy'.

In just eight years from 2000 to 2008, BRICs countries – Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa - saw their combined share of total world economic output rise from 16 to 22 per cent. This led to a 30 per cent increase in global output during the period, showing how key these countries were to global prosperity in the 21st Century. The BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India, China) countries make up nearly half the world's population and are regional leaders. Taken together, their gross domestic products (GDPs) are not far behind the United States.

What's next?

Ruchir Sharma's *Breakout Nations: In Pursuit of the Next Economic Miracles* (<http://www.amazon.com/Breakout-Nations-Pursuit-Economic-Miracles/dp/0393080269>) argues that the BRICs are now entering a more stable growth path and thus will not see the rapid-fire expansion and quick profits investors have become used to in the past decade.

“The BRICs,” Sharma told Forbes magazine, “were last decade’s team.”

The buzz surrounding the BRICs countries over the past decade has been justified by their impressive growth rates, declining poverty levels, modernizing economies and societies and growing middle class populations.

China alone saw its gross domestic product grow by US \$5 trillion between 2001 and 2011.

But other countries are now coming up. Sharma points out that Indonesia was the best-performing emerging market in 2011 and has a GDP that will surpass a trillion dollars in the coming years.

He also believes Sri Lanka and Nigeria are economies to watch.

Sharma says funds flowing into emerging market stocks grew by 478 per cent between 2005 and 2010, a huge jump compared to 2000 to 2005, when the total grew by 92 per cent.

Investors who watch the emerging markets predict the hot growth areas for the next decade will be around energy, technology, and agricultural resources. All are areas ripe for significant innovation.

To make sense of the complexity of fast-emerging economies, the flurry of new investor acronyms try to find the common attributes they share. One country cluster is called the CIVETS: Colombia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Egypt, Turkey, South Africa (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CIVETS>). Another is PC-16 (Post-China 16), comprising the 16 countries best suited to succeed China as the world's low-cost, export-oriented economy hub - Bangladesh, Cambodia, the Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kenya, Laos,

Mexico, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Peru, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Uganda and Vietnam (Stratfor).

The MINTS (Mexico, Indonesia, Nigeria and Turkey) are also set for great growth in the next decade, many investors believe. Then there is the N-11 or Next 11. This is the MINTS plus Bangladesh, Egypt, Iran, Pakistan, the Philippines, South Korea and Vietnam.

And after that there is VISTA (Vietnam, Indonesia, South Africa, Turkey and Argentina).

These countries, investors note, now have an unprecedented range of options uncoupled from the political, financial and economic legacy of Western developed nations. Investors say that many nations in the global South are set for a runaway investment boom because they are making changes and modernizing their economies faster than many expect. In short, they are innovating at an ever-increasing pace as they gain access to new technologies and ideas.

There are many new centres of economic activity and rising prosperity across the emerging markets that often fail to gain wider attention. Few know that the Northeast Asian nation of Mongolia – mired in the 1990s in the worst peacetime economic collapse in half a century (<http://www.scribd.com/doc/20864541/Mongolia-Update-1998-Book>) – is now the world's fastest-growing economy (<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/2012/02/28/what-behind-mongoliaeconomic-boom>) and one of the top places for mobile phone usage and penetration (<http://www.businessmongolia.com/mongolia/2012/03/19/mongolia-ringing-the-changes/>).

Then there is Myanmar, where many are hoping recent moves toward democracy and improvements in diplomatic relations will lead to an economic boon for the region.

Investors are also targeting Kazakhstan in Central Asia.

Reflecting these changing realities, Standard Bank, Africa's largest bank, has been documenting the rising role played by the Chinese currency in international trade. A recent report forecast US \$100 billion (R768 billion) in Sino-African trade would be settled in the Chinese currency, the renminbi, by 2015. This would be double the trade between China and Africa in 2010. It also found 70,000 Chinese companies are using the renminbi in international trade transactions.

It is all about innovation

The cynical might view this rise of the global South as a shallow marketing and publicity make-over akin to a 'Reality TV' show, where everyone gets a new hairstyle and fashionable clothes while remaining deeply unhappy and stuck in the same situation as before. But there are fundamental changes bubbling underneath that really are changing conditions on the ground. And those changes are caused by innovation.

The most obvious and visible innovation in recent years has been the rapid deployment of mobile phones and information technology, including the Internet, across the globe. The somewhat incongruous spectacle of people without access to clean water or a flush toilet having a mobile phone, is now commonplace. An oft-cited example is India, where more people have access to a mobile phone than a toilet (UN).

It used to be the case that a map of world wealth and trade tended to show a spider's web of links connecting North America and Europe. It was taken as given that that was where the action and the wealth were. Today, a fundamental eastwards shift is underway. The countries of the North are still immensely wealthy and the United States still stands as the world's economic and military superpower, but countries in the global South are making their big moves, and this includes China moving into the two spot of world's second-largest

economy. There are year-on-year increases in trade between countries of the global South, often bypassing the countries of the global North. The rise of China and other countries in the global South has also increased incomes and living standards for many millions. People who were previously considered so poor as to be economically irrelevant, are consuming more and more every year. The size of the middle class in the global South has rapidly grown during the past five years and the proportion of people classified as extremely poor has declined.

China's role in Africa has become a game-changer: it has jolted to life once moribund and fallow trade relationships that had left Africa economically marginal. Chinese investment in infrastructure is helping to rebuild countries on the continent which had not seen major infrastructure investment since the 1970s. The devastating debt crisis of the 1980s had brought to a quick halt Africa's previous post-colonial growth spurt. But now China is the world's second-largest oil importer and heading to number one. And more and more of this resource is being imported from other countries of the global South, including Africa, giving these countries a significant income boost.

The spreading of ideas has also been radically altered: so-called bottom-up innovation and knowledge-sharing is boosted by the expansion of the Internet. Examples of this include websites such as Afrigadget (afrigadget.com), where ingenious and low-cost solutions to common African problems are celebrated and detailed. Southern Innovator (southerninnovator.org), of course, is another example.

At a more sophisticated and better resourced level, information technology hubs (iHub in Nairobi, Kenya is a good example) (ihub.co.ke) combined with science/research and development hubs and innovation centres - where innovation experimentation and new

technology and product creation takes place - are now, via the Internet, able to quickly communicate and share their insights. As an example, the development of 3D fabricators/replicators (makerbot.com) by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (first reported by *Development Challenges, South-South Solutions* in 2007) has gone through a prototype phase - part of it in countries across the global South - and is now a technology being sold by various private companies in either complete form, or as home-assembly technology kits. This is a potentially transformative technology for innovators as the price comes down, as has been seen with other new technologies such as personal computers, mobile phones and smartphones and laptop computers. The practical implications for innovators include using 3D fabrication machines to mill any design downloaded from the Internet or a personal computer. Innovators can realize their dreams at the touch of a button keyboard.

What is innovation?

Innovation takes a number of forms, as detailed in the Oslo Manual for measuring innovation produced by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) (<http://www.oecd.org/innovation/inno/oslomanualguidelinesforcollectingandinterpretinginnovationdata3rdedition.htm>). The Manual has defined four types of innovation: product innovation, process innovation, marketing innovation and organizational innovation (OECD).

Product innovation is a good or service that is new or significantly improved. This includes significant improvements in technical specifications, components and materials, software in the product, user friendliness or other functional characteristics. Process innovation is a new or significantly improved production or delivery method. This includes significant changes in techniques, equipment and/or software. Marketing innovation is defined as a

new marketing method involving significant changes to product design or packaging, product placement, product promotion or pricing. And finally, organizational innovation is a new organizational method in business practices, workplace organization or external relations.

How quickly these can be brought to the marketplace, and the level of innovation in a society, will be critical to a country's success in the coming decade, according to the (OECD). Importantly, innovation is being seen as the big driver of economic progress and well-being and the best way to deal with the plethora of challenges facing human health and the environment.

So, what?

How is today different to previous periods of wide-scale innovation? And, importantly, is the quality of the innovation that great or that significant? Looking back, periods of significant and cascading innovation waves can be identified throughout the centuries. Ancient Egypt, ancient Greece, ancient Arabia, China in the middle ages, the European Renaissance, the Victorian period of the mid to late 19th century, the beginning of the 20th century, the 1930s, the 1950s to the 1960s, and the information technology renaissance of the 1970s until the 1990s. Some have characterized these waves of innovation since the 19th century as three industrial revolutions. The first brought the dirty industrial age of the 19th century, the second brought the flurry of transformational innovations and technologies such as electricity, lighting and modern sewage systems, and the one we are currently living through is the one brought by the rise of information technology and microcomputers. Countries around the world are in various states of these industrial

revolutions. For example, China is home to a highly-polluting industrial factory revolution but is also experiencing the high-tech, clean-tech industrial revolution.

Through much of history, while science and technology advanced and knowledge from previous generations was built on (or, in some places, lost by changes in circumstances, only to be 'discovered' and pop up somewhere else), it was mostly shared among a very small elite of people. These individuals tended to be associated with the great learning institutions. The spread of mass literacy in Western societies and the mass media that fed off this growing readership created a market for knowledge. More and more people were exposed to the knowledge that was once the preserve of the elite, turning knowledge-sharing into a mass experience.

And now this mass knowledge-sharing experience has gone global, making innovation in its many forms critical to not only achieving the eight Millennium Development Goals set for the deadline of 2015 - just two years away - but also critical to achieving the new goals currently being debated for the post-2015 environment.

All of this will be informed by the global economic crisis that has caused so much havoc to many countries since it first erupted in 2007/2008. Where there are gaps and failures by governments, it will be innovation that will make up the difference.

Why the focus on information technology and the Internet?

As posited by Moore's Law (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moore's_law), computing power doubles every 18 months. This is highly relevant to development because it has allowed the rapid take-up of mobile phones around the global South and increased access to the

Internet. As microelectronics continues to become cheaper, computing will be ubiquitous in the future as computer chips will be nano-thin, cheap and in everything. This means all objects will be able to connect to the Internet 24/7.

As futurist Dr. Michio Kaku says: “where there is no Internet, there is poverty” and where there is the Internet, there is prosperity. Access to mobile phones and information technology such as the Internet continues to feed improvements in living standards.

In Kenya, as documented by researchers at the London School of Economics, an additional 10 mobile phones per 100 people raises GDP per capita growth by 0.59 percentage points (Waverman et al., 2005).

No matter what field a person is involved in, they are finding mobile phones and information technology part of the solution to their daily problems. Small-scale fashion designers use the web to advertise their wares and to sell garments to customers (*Southern Innovator* Issue 1). Small-scale farmers turn to services available on mobile phones to get the latest market prices for their produce and to connect with buyers and check weather patterns (*Southern Innovator* Issue 3). Kiosk owners find themselves offering a wide variety of services for mobile phones, from phone cards to recharging services to products, such as health and life insurance, available in a card format for registration on customers' mobile phones.

Since the start of the e-newsletter *Development Challenges, South-South Solutions* in 2006, another big change has occurred: across Africa, information technology ‘hubs’ are being established in cities. The most famous of these is iHub Nairobi. These places have collected together information technology innovators - many of whom are young - and

have created a node of innovation that is rippling out to the wider society and economy. This is where the new - and disruptive - innovators and start-ups begin and they are radically altering how business and trade is being done in Africa.

Common examples of the transformative power of information technology boosting livelihoods and improving human development include:

- Access to financial services via mobile phones for the world's poor. People who have never had access to any form of financial service now find it possible to get micro-loans, save credits and transfer and send money to pay bills, the rent, or buy services such as a funeral for a loved one.
- Mobile phones are used to check for counterfeit pharmaceuticals, to record health data, to contact doctors and health professionals, to get advice, and even for employment doing so-called 'micro-work' tasks for income.
- Where it is affordable and accessible, people are now using the Internet to study, acquire new educational qualifications to boost opportunities and skills, to connect with others, keep in touch with family, organize online businesses, access banking services, contact potential employers, research business opportunities, and find out the most accurate and up-to-date scientific information to avoid mistakes.

In just a few years, many young start-ups first covered by the e-newsletter have gone on to become global success stories. These include Question Box (questionbox.org), Jana Mobile (<http://www.jana.com/about/team/>) and Better Place (betterplace.org).

The Future: science fiction will become science fact for the world's poor

Over the next 20 years, radical new technologies based on cutting edge physics will emerge and transform what is possible. Getting news out about these innovations will be critical.

There are many great resources on the future development of science and technology and some of these have been included at the end of this paper. The following are potentially of major significance - both disruptive and full of potential - to the work of development practitioners, particularly those working in human development and knowledge-sharing.

Google Glass (<http://www.google.com/glass/start/>): People laugh now, but this is just the prototype and the start. Retina access to the Internet will come in many forms, from contact lenses, fashionable eyewear, and, for the eye-sight impaired or blind, with microchips surgically implanted in their eyes or heads.

Translation: Already, it is simple to translate information on the Internet no matter what the language. These translations can be rough and indelicate, but people can get the gist of what is being said. This will get better over time. This will open up the world to people from minority language groups.

Smarter smartphones: They will come with multiple screens for watching video and scrolling web sites. Where many people still have just access to simple phones that can make calls and text, the next generation phones will eventually become so cheap and ubiquitous that these functions will also come into the hands of the poor.

Driverless cars: They are already in advanced development and prototyping. This will be a transformative technological innovation for the global South's fast-growing cities and urban areas.

Drones: Already in heavy use by the military, and now being rolled out by law enforcement agencies around the world, drones will also play a critical role in peace and prosperity. From being able to deliver refrigerated medicines to remote communities to being able to deliver goods to people living in densely-packed slums, drones have many uses that are only limited by imagination.

Robots: Robots will profoundly challenge ideas of work and leisure. What does this mean for developing countries, and in particular countries with widespread poverty and an urgent need to raise living standards? It is going to mean the end of the option of just offering a very cheap workforce as a competitive advantage - a formula that has worked for countries across the global South since the spread of the current form of globalization (think of the vast outsourcing industry for clothing, information technology, microelectronics assembly etc.).

Cheap labour will become less effective as an economic strategy for a wide variety of reasons. Technology enables greater precision in manufacturing and because this is possible, tolerance for goods not made precisely will drop. This means manufacturing in poor countries that just relying on a low-wage workforce will feel the push to deploy efficient and precision technology in order to compete. Another factor is the presence of the Internet and mobile communications playing havoc with exploitative labour practices that once could occur in the shadows of the world economy. Recent factory fire tragedies

and the high suicide rates at factories for manufacturing components for the Apple computer company are examples. In short, robots will both be a threat and an opportunity.

Health technologies: Diagnosing disease and health problems will become easier and easier and done by electronic devices not by doctors. These portable devices are already in use in prototype forms in Africa but more is to come - and soon.

Microelectronics revolution: The revolution in microelectronics will continue and mimic what has happened with mobile phones: things will become smaller, more portable, cheaper, and easier to use for the none specialist. It will be like the battery-operated transistor radio, which connected many people for the first time to radio broadcasts and a world of entertainment and information and was made ubiquitous and affordable by the Japanese in the 1950s and 1960s. Cheap microelectronics will continue to do this.

And all these technological innovations will not be just about geeky men. Women will also be the key shapers of how technology is used. More women will dominate the priorities of the Internet and more of these women will be from the global South, not just the current wealthy societies. They will be using these technologies to do what is most important to them and their families, careers, income opportunities and business plans.

The China innovation challenge

China - the country that has lifted the most people in human history out of poverty in the shortest time and is currently ramping up the biggest migration drive from rural to urban living in human history - is also facing an innovation dilemma. Innovation will have to play a key role in the country if its vast changes are to work to improve human development,

not harm it. As well. China's growing role in the global South is also going to be critical to the future of the global South.

Author Timothy Beardson asks in *Stumbling Giant: The Threats to China's Future*: will China be able to meet the innovation challenge?

Beardson tackles this in the chapter 'The Elusive Knowledge Economy'. He sums up the current state of innovation in China and how it will develop based on the country's historical and cultural conditions.

While much attention has been given to China's scientific advances and achievements in the past decade, Beardson argues the country still does not have the right conditions in place for a genuine innovative economy (Market Oracle). The problems lie in the country's education, history, culture, ethics and politics. Beardson concludes "China is failing in innovation".

Beardson questions the indicators many point to, such as China's high research and development spending. But he does believe it is possible for this to change. He pinpoints the important pre-condition for a true innovation culture to flourish: the necessity of freedom of information.

Universities in China still must adhere to a list of topics that cannot be discussed and this has had a chilling effect on free debate at this level and in turn on the ability for innovation to flourish.

Beardson notes, "In other words, China may accumulate the funding, build the laboratories and staff them, but it might not possess a 'non-hierarchical scientific culture, fertile institutional framework and critical thinking' - the necessary soft skills.

“We must question whether China will rapidly develop these characteristics - or even if it wishes to.

“Evidence from various countries suggests that the best innovation comes from research and development undertaken by the private sector, not by government. It is unlikely that China would be any different.

“If critical thinking and social stability are seen as opposites in a zero-sum game, China will be the loser. However, China can achieve much if it wills it.”

But if China is not able to fully fulfill its innovation mission in the formal education and public sector, it is definitely doing it in the private sector. Companies such as Huawei (<http://www.huawei.com/en/>), now a major global information technology and communications hardware manufacturer, are building bigger global brand profiles. Huawei sponsors events, such as Norway’s annual The Gathering (<http://www.gathering.org/tg13/no/>) for local area network (LAN) ‘geeks’ to test super-fast Internet technology. And it is in the achievements of the information technology sector, and the Internet in particular, that things have become very exciting.

According to the Market Oracle, “They note that Haier (haier.com) has become a global company and brand, and that the Internet in China in particular has created many innovations and changed the lives of hundreds of millions of Chinese. Steve Blank, of the Haas School of Business at Berkeley, recently visited web companies in both China and Japan. He sees China at a turning point, rather than reaching a hard limit, as he describes innovation with Chinese characteristics.”

Steve Blank noted from his visits to China, “For the last 10 years China essentially closed its search, media and social network software market to foreign companies with the result that Google, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Dropbox, and 30,000 other websites were not

accessible from China. This left an open playing field for Chinese software startups as they 'copy to China' existing U.S. business models. Of course 'copy' is too strong a word. Adapt, adopt and extend is probably a better description. But for the last decade 'innovation' in Chinese software meant something different than it did in Silicon Valley.”

But there is still a strong economic problem that needs to be resolved. China is still paying more to purchase innovative technology from overseas than is being paid to China - an innovation deficit. More disturbing for China in the long-term, the royalty and licensing fees paid to China often go to foreign companies doing research and development work within China.

These are problems for the long-term development of innovation. This will need to be addressed if the balance of power in innovation is to truly be turned towards the global South.

Where does *Southern Innovator and Development Challenges, South-South Solutions* fit in?

When the e-newsletter *Development Challenges, South-South Solutions* was launched in 2006, there was little in the way of steady, positive coverage of the global South and its opportunities. Mainstream news media focused on a diet of negative stories, mostly involving a revolving door of war, chaos, natural disasters, poverty and hopeless misery. Prior to the global economic crash, most of the positive stories were focused on the global North.

The e-newsletter was able to leverage two trends that have made it much easier to gather positive news on what is happening across the global South. The first trend has included

the spread of mobile phones and the increasing number of people who are using the Internet to communicate and tell stories, through their websites, social media, blogging, and posting of messages. This has exponentially increased those who can be reached to tell their story. The second trend has been the growth in what can only be described as an 'innovation culture'. This has many causes - great interest in development and eradicating poverty, improved economic growth rates, greater freedoms, increasing physical contacts between people and cross-border travel and trade, a rising middle class and improving education. What it means is more and more people are pushing out into the public realm their ideas and solutions to problems and development challenges. Some of these ideas and solutions are radical, fresh and new, while others are local reworkings of proven approaches from other places. Still others fit in with the culture of 'hacking' and 'hacks': the phenomenon where people with scarce resources use whatever is to hand to make what they need, be it a new tune, a piece of software or a jerry rigged appliance or tool. These innovations are celebrated in networks and events such as the annual Maker Faire Africa event (<http://makerfaireafrica.com/>), or even the Global South-South Expo.

The e-newsletter has been able to gather these stories and resources on innovation and distribute them widely through the Internet and the email network established by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (formerly the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation in UNDP). The stories have had the effect of developing and coalescing a self-identifying community of global South innovators who come from a wide spectrum of backgrounds and expertise - from housing to information technology, medicine, agriculture, business, marketing and advertising, creative industries and the arts, science, and the media.

With the launch of *Southern Innovator* magazine in 2011, the innovator meme* and message now has a colourful, visual expression in a 60-page magazine. The magazine is itself highly innovative in how it is printed. It uses renewable energy for all its design work, is printed using sustainable paper resources and is kept to 60 pages to keep the magazine light, reducing distribution costs. It has a laminated cover so it is water resistant and dirt wipes clean. In short, it tries to be as innovative in its approach as the people it covers.

The magazine uses a positive palette of colours to trigger a constructive psychological response in the reader and to give dignity to the pioneers and their ideas while spurring action. Instructional illustrations and images accompany the stories to help readers replicate the concepts locally. There are also many additional resources and web links included to make it possible to find everything required to execute a solution with the story.

Each issue of the magazine is intended to be a highly concentrated distillation of knowledge spanning many disciplines and with enough solutions to tackle any problems and challenges related to the cover theme. It also comes with infographics intended to give the reader the overall big picture of what is happening in the wider global South in each issue's thematic area.

Both the e-newsletter and the magazine play a crucial role in framing the advance of new technologies and solutions in the context of improving human development, not harming it. Technology is neutral but how people use it and for what purpose is not. By encouraging a positive use of technology and solutions to improve human development across the global South, the magazine and e-newsletter can amplify efforts by governments and aid donors. By avoiding just offering 'gee-whiz' solutions and encouraging readers to interpret

innovation in a more mature way, the publications draw in a vast army of potential innovators to boost development goals.

According to a conference reported by Canada's *Globe and Mail* newspaper, "personal traits, such as perseverance, courage, self-accountability, and confidence" are the most critical elements needed to make ideas happen. But the most important quality for success, it concluded, was perseverance. The experts believed innovation was a balance between "knowing when to press on and when to slow down".

Innovators can boost their chances of success by taking on information from people outside their area of expertise. Such "ideas can actually increase your chance of success on problem-solving by 10 percent, according to a Harvard University study".

"The further the problem from the solver's expertise, the more likely they are to solve it," Karim Lakhani, an Associate Professor of Business Administration at the Harvard Business School, and his co-authors concluded.

"Innovation happens when someone comes in from a different perspective and breaks a problem open, but rarely do we have mechanisms in place so this happens systematically."

Their research showed new ideas and thinking inevitably generates uncertainty.

And they concluded, "innovation is not an end in itself, but a step in a process of constant evolution."

Conclusion

Much is at stake as the world enters this next big shift in human development. It will test the limits of governance systems and economies. It will stress individuals, their cultures, and world views and knowledge to the maximum. By providing access to the knowledge of innovation as quickly as possible, problems can be addressed, and spread in a viral fashion, using memes and word of mouth. In short, innovation becomes the tool of the modern human being living in a complex and fast-changing world. And the magazine that will champion them is *Southern Innovator*.

Endnotes

* Meme: A meme is “an idea, behaviour or style that spreads from person to person within a culture” (Source: Wikipedia).

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Nations Office for South-South Cooperation

Southern Innovator Issue 3: Agribusiness and Food Security Issue (2012): Publisher:

United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation

Southern Innovator Issue 4: Cities and Urbanization Issue (2013): Publisher: United

Nations Office for South-South Cooperation

2013 UNDP Global Human Development Report, "The Rise of the South: Human Progress in a Diverse World", Publisher: UNDP, 14 March 2013

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Great Ormond Street
Children's Hospital and the
Institute of Child Health

www.gosh.nhs.uk

Want to help Children?



Here & around the world

NHS



Why we can do this well

Unlike commercial for-profit websites, we are under no pressure to compromise our content. We are also a stable, public institution which will not go out of business. The Boston Consulting Group found that most commercial online health ventures were failing. They also found that these ventures fundamentally misunderstood how patients and physicians use the web. Trust also came up as an issue.

Most patients were wary of online information and tended to trust universities and medical associations over commercial websites (we are associated with University College London). All our content is produced in direct consultation with patients, families, physicians and nurses. They know what they want and we strive to deliver it. We also have strong relationships with the wider UK government e-initiatives, including the NHS Direct online health service. Through these portal sites, our content is able to reach a vast audience.

Stacey-Jane Panther had surgery at GOSH to correct the effects of Perthes disease, which interrupts the blood supply to the head of the femur (thigh- bone) and makes hip movement painful. The operations were followed by physiotherapy. Spending time in hospital did not mean 11-year-old Stacey missing school entirely: GOSH has its own school, which is used by thousands of children every year. With a staff of 21, it welcomes all inpatients of school age and teaches youngsters on the ward if they are not well enough to come to the schoolroom. The school was praised last year by inspectors from the education watchdog OFSTED.



Who are we?

Our strong brand, world renowned for 150 years, is now online. The Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children works hand-in-hand with the Institute of Child Health (affiliated with University College London) and South Bank University. The Institute and the Hospital sit beside each other in the heart of London. It is a collaborative and dynamic relationship, where world leaders work together to provide the widest range of paediatric specialties in the country, and the largest paediatric research and training centre in Britain. For families and patients, this ensures that the treatments at the hospital are grounded in the latest developments and meet the highest standards.

All areas of the hospital take part in research, including a particular focus on research by nurses and professions allied to medicine. The Institute and Hospital's research and development strategy is based on research themes targeted at meeting the health needs of children.

The seven themes are:

- [Biochemical and nutritional sciences](#)
- [Cancer](#)
- [Cardiorespiratory sciences](#)
- [Genes, development and disease](#)
- [Infection and immunity](#)
- [Neurosciences and mental health](#)
- [Population health sciences](#)

Who uses our site?

- Doctors, nurses, researchers/scientists, and patients and their families of course
- We treat some 100,000 children every year
- Number of site users per month: 72,841 (Sept. 2001)
- Most users find our site through: Google search engine NHS.uk portal site
- It is estimated that more than three million children in the UK have access to the internet. They could all be potential users of our site if the content is right. (Source: Jupiter MMXI)

Amy Saunders has been completely deaf since birth but at the age of three and a half she listens and talks almost as if there were nothing wrong. A cochlear implant, inserted last year by surgeons at GOSH, enables her to 'hear' by converting sounds into electrical signals that stimulate her auditory nerve. That means her language skills are developing as normal. "I forget she's deaf," says her mother, Jill. "She's always telling me things and singing. It's the nearest thing to a miracle that I'll ever see." More than 170 children have been given cochlear implants at GOSH since the programme began in 1992.



Jack

Jack Smithson, 11, was born with a cyst on his brain which caused uncontrollable seizures and weakened the left side of his body. He underwent a hemispherectomy at GOSH to disconnect the left side of his brain from the right – a surgical procedure that helps to control seizures in about 80 per cent of patients. GOSH developed the UK's first service for children with severe epileptic seizures, which has grown into one of the largest paediatric epilepsy surgery programmes in the world.

A child health portal that can be trusted

It has been estimated there are now more than 100,000 web sites dedicated to health. It's a crowded market out there on the internet – and pretty confusing if you need to know where to turn. The Journal of the American Medical Association surveyed these sites and found most offering "incomplete, misleading, or difficult to understand information, while others blur the distinction between advertising and medical advice".

In September of this year we re-launched our child health portal, www.gosh.nhs.uk, as part of a dynamic project to tap the wealth of knowledge held in the hospital and our research partner, the Institute of Child Health.

We seek to become a one-stop portal for complex child health issues. To date, our expertise in innovative care and research has not been fully reflected in the content of our site: a situation we are determined to change. What we hear from patients and families time and time again is the need for trust when seeking out resources on the web. If your child is sick, you want to know the information you find is accurate and up-to-date, grounded in cutting-edge research and care developments: two things we do very well.



Gemma Richards had a bone marrow transplant at GOSH after she was diagnosed with leukocyte adhesion deficiency, an extremely rare disorder that hindered the response of her white blood cells to skin infection or injury. It meant that her skin was unable to heal itself. Gemma, 11, received bone marrow from an unrelated UK donor and is now well on the way to recovery. Although not a fan of hospitals, she likes GOSH. "I know a lot of people here now," she says. Last year there were 57 bone marrow transplants at GOSH.

Opportunities for collaboration

Content partnerships, for example

- Research breakthroughs/developments, strengthening research networks, aiding developing countries.
- Children's research news service
- Children's website editorial board

Technical support

- Research developments without the jargon
- Technical support: innovative applications to enhance our work

Ethical guidelines: All partners must meet our ethical guidelines. We adhere to the 1992/1993 Charities Act.

Please contact us for additional details, but they are in short:

We will not accept funds from the following:

- tobacco/alcohol companies

- pharmaceutical companies, with the following proviso:
 - if a specific medicinal product allows the Charity to meet specific strategic and operational objectives
 - if it is a non-pharmaceutical product, for example cosmetics or toiletries with a proven track record
 - no endorsement of infant feeding formulae
 - no endorsement of dietary supplements
 - Anything that could damage the reputation of the hospital/institute

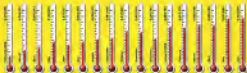
David South, Web Strategy
Southd@gosh.nhs.uk
Tel: 020 7829 8671 Ext. 1052
Design/Layout: Medical illustration

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GOSH/ICH Child Health Portal

2001 to 2003



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GOSHKids
teens

9 October 2002
Search the site **go**
Email: info@gosh.nhs.uk

Research Review
The Research Review is jam-packed with stories about our research and achievements. [Read more...](#)

GOSH launches first-ever child-friendly health site
GOSHKids – the first truly child-friendly hospital site. [Read more...](#)

A UK first: child cured by gene therapy
A child has been cured of a fatal genetic condition, X-SCID, by gene therapy at GOSH. [Read more...](#)

ICH heads genetics knowledge park
ICH dean David Latchman is to lead £3 million London IDEAS Park. [Read more...](#)

Clinical improvement for a better hospital
A six-month review has started to produce a new action plan for GOSH. [Read more...](#)

MMR GOSH says "MMR is best and safest option for our children"
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Jack was born with a cyst on his brain which caused uncontrollable seizures and weakened the left side of his body. [Read more...](#)

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Use this page as a gateway to our many support services, or try exploring our many fact sheets on medical procedures, ailments and diseases. We have a lively range of support services for children and teens, including our radio station (**Radio Gosh**) and children's school.

Ask Dr Jane Collins
THE **CHILD** TIMES
Dr Jane Collins column online Popular Times column dispenses jargon-free advice. A-Z of Child Complaints Articles

Factsheets for families
Large archive developed by our medical and research teams. [Read more...](#)

Joint website puts the child first
Check out our new Teens and Tots

Holly White underwent pioneering surgery at GOSH after a brain scan showed she had moxa-moxa

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Search here to explore our services, make a referral, attend a course or conference, and connect with our researchers.

Patient and Family factsheets
Download our many factsheets to distribute to families.

Check out our library, selected by the BMJ as an excellent source of paediatric resources.

Clinical improvement
A six-month review has started to produce a new action plan for GOSH. [Read more...](#)

Stacey-Jane Panther had surgery at GOSH to correct the effects of Perthes disease, which interrupts the blood supply to the head of the femur (thigh-bone) and makes hip movement painful. Read more about Holly and others in this year's *Annual report*

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Together, the Hospital and the Institute of Child Health offer a rich source of knowledge on child health. Explore our research themes, link with colleagues or conduct a search.

Research Review 2001
The Research Review is jam-packed with stories about our research and achievements. [Read more...](#)

ICH heads genetics knowledge park
ICH dean David Latchman is to lead £3 million London IDEAS Park. [Read more...](#)

Cancer gene breakthrough
ICH scientists have identified five genes that are expressed in embryonic and cancer cells. [Read more...](#)

Ellie (above) from Chingford, East London suffers from a rare neonatal disorder, PHH, which has puzzled doctors and scientists for years. Read more about Ellie in this year's Research Review.

More research links

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A UK first: child cured by gene therapy A child has been cured of a fatal genetic condition X-SCD, by gene therapy at GOSH. [Read more](#)

Great resources for families Scroll through our large archive of family factsheets. [Read more](#)

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Jack was born with a cyst on his brain which caused uncontrollable seizures and weakened the left side of his body. [Read more](#)

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What do kids really think of burgers and chips?

Being bullied? Find out what you can do to stop it.

Check out our wizard Harry Potter section.

Take a look at our fun stories about your favourite stars.

Read children's real stories from all over the world.

Last updated: 27th June 2003
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Written by GOSH Trust.
Reviewed by Children First About us

Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity

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Great Ormond Street Hospital welcomes more than 90,000 patients per year. Any donations you make to Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity have a profound effect on the care and treatment we can provide to seriously ill children, topping up the NHS' funding. To find out more about the vital work of the hospital, visit www.gosh.nhs.uk.

Shortcuts:

- GOSH2000 re-development
- 150 years of caring for children
- Peter Pan
- Schools click here

Latest news:

- Go roaring mad at Paradise Wildlife Park
- Great Ormond Street Hospital celebrates ten years of intensive care unit
- Kylie's Ka makes a mint for children's hospital
- Paris to London Bike Ride, 26-31 July 2003

Make a Donation: phone now on 020 7916 5678

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Other ways to help

Song of hope for "Miracle Child"
Emma Lucas is a bright and friendly eight-year-old girl whose main concern is getting the next issue of her favourite magazine. But to her parents she is a mini-miracle... [read more](#)

Miffy helps out the hospital
The naming of a new Miffy ward at Great Ormond Street Hospital brings loads of Miffy-related activities to the hospital... [read more](#)

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► Form for schools pack?

MORE INFO

Read about the history of GOSH and the first child admitted when it opened in 1852.

We support fundraising activities by providing a **Schools Pack**.

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Ask Dr Jane Collins...

A-Z of child complaints

a

Acne

Up to 85 per cent of 12 to 25 year olds suffer from spots. Boys and girls are equally affected. They usually appear at puberty and reach their peak at 17-21. If untreated, persistent spots or acne, can cause scarring but prompt treatment minimises this. Acne is caused by over-production of oil from the sebaceous glands in the skin mainly on the face, chest and back in response to normal levels of sex hormones. Oil blocks the ducts to the surface of the skin allowing waste cells to accumulate under the skin's surface forming a plug. Bacteria also play a part. Teenage girls often report a flare-up before menstruation. Some find stress and certain foods, especially fast food and chocolate, make acne worse although there is no scientific evidence for this. Some cosmetics provoke spots especially those containing oils, fatty acids and waxes. Acne is not infectious or contagious.

Symptoms: Oily skin with red lumps, yellow spots, blackheads and whiteheads. Teenagers with black skin often find that spots make their skin darker and this pigmentation can last for months.



Ask Dr Jane Collins...

THE i433 TIMES

A-Z of child complaints

a	b	c	d	e	f	g
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Frequently Asked Questions

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Welcome to Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital/Institute of Child Health. If you have a question, please look through the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) to see if the answer is there. If not, please use the form on this page to contact us.

We are unable to answer queries or offer advice about specific patients and/or their conditions through this website. At the same time, we recognize that visitors to our website may require information about particular paediatric health issues. Please check out our [family factsheets](#) for information on tests, procedures, operations, and various paediatric conditions. You can also read our archive of [Dr Jane Collins' Times](#) column, dispensing jargon-free advice on a wide range of paediatric topics.



Subject Choose a subject...

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Information for families Genetics and inheritance

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Please use the indexes below to find the factsheet you need.

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What are genes?
How can genetic disorders be inherited?
Is it always possible to make a genetic diagnosis?
How can genetic abnormalities be detected?
Contact information

Background

Many immunodeficiency disorders are the result of defects in an individual's genetic makeup. These are mistakes which occur in genes and are passed from generation to generation. Sometimes a genetic mistake (mutation) can occur for the first time in an infant or child when no-one else in the family has had the problem, but in other situations there may be family members who have suffered from the same or similar problems. There are several ways in which mutations can be inherited - these are explained below. In an increasing number of immunodeficiency disorders the precise mistake in the relevant gene can now be identified in the laboratory, and this means that accurate counselling can be offered to the family, and screening tests can be offered in pregnancy if requested.

What are genes?



Information for families The Activities Centre

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Who runs the Activities Centre?
What is there to do in the Activities Centre?
What happens when I bring my child to the Activities Centre?
When is the Activities Centre open?
Special needs therapy session
Youth Group
Junior youth group
The Den

This page tells you about the Activities Centre at Great Ormond Street Hospital.

What is the Activities Centre?

It's a place where inpatients at Great Ormond Street Hospital can get away from the medical environment of their ward for a while and have some fun. It's bright and colourful, full of things to do and gives children at the hospital an opportunity to meet other people their own age.



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Press Office

151 years of caring for sick children
Phone: (020) 7829 8671

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Scroll through our statements, publications and press releases, or learn more about the rich history of our work. We have been in the forefront of child health for over 150 years. Contact us at (020) 7829 8671.

What's New

3 June 2003
Non-executive director reappointed at Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Trust. [Read more...](#)

News Archive

27 May 2003
Great Ormond Street Hospital celebrated ten years of intensive care unit. [Read more...](#)

20 May 2003
Healthy start, healthy futures: The future of children and young people's maternity and neonatal health services. [Read more...](#)

2 May 2003
Past and present patients united to celebrate opening of new ward. [Read more...](#)

12 May 2003
New appeal raises £1.5 million for first-ever research chair in

Ketogenic Diet

High-fat diet reduces severe epileptic seizures in children. [Read more...](#)

GOSH Kids wins award

International Childnet award goes to GOSH. [Read more...](#)

Epilepsy Feature

Learn more about groundbreaking advances in the treatment of epilepsy. [Read more...](#)

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Epilepsy




X-ray of electrodes used in 'trapdoor' procedure

Epilepsy Contents

- Ketogenic Diet: FAQs
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Directorate of Nursing and Family Services

Use this page as a gateway to our many support services, or try exploring our many fact sheets on medical procedures, ailments and diseases. We have a lively range of support services for children and teens, including our radio station (Radio Gosh) and children's school.

Ask Dr Jane Collins

Dr Jane Collins column online: Popular Times column dispenses jargon-free advice. A-Z of Child Complaints Articles

Factsheets for families

Large archive developed by our medical and research teams. [Read more...](#)

Joint website puts the child first

Check out our new Teens and Tots



Holly White: underwent pioneering surgery at GOSH after a brain scan showed she had moxa-moxa

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Information for families

When your child is admitted

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Please use the indexes below to find the factsheet you need.

Contents

- Getting ready for admission
- Talking to your child
- Packing for your child
- For yourself
- Electrical appliances
- Telephones

Getting ready for admission

Children in hospital need a parent or someone familiar with them as much as possible. It helps if a parent can stay, at least for the first few nights, although we realise this may be difficult for those who have other children at home.

As a parent you are welcome to be with your child in the hospital at all times (and at no charge). We will always provide somewhere for one parent to stay although we cannot guarantee that this will be at your child's bedside.

A list of local hotels is also available from the family services department if needed.

Talking to your child

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UK Newborn Screening Programme Centre

'Quality through partnership in newborn bloodspot screening'

Welcome to the UK Newborn Screening Programme Centre

We hope you will find this website informative and a convenient way of receiving information on the collaborative work that we have planned to assure quality in newborn screening services throughout the UK. We welcome your involvement whether as a professional, parent or interested member of the public and you can find out how to do this in the '[Get Involved](#)' pages.

Through this site we will introduce you to our team and the purpose of our work in '[About us](#)'. You will also be able to access information about our work and its context within the '[Information](#)' pages. A useful [glossary](#) and key to some of the abbreviations used is also available here for your use.

The Programme Centre Team

Latest News

NEWS News and information

FAQs

Q&A Questions answered for parents and professionals

Links

Useful links, including the [National Childbirth Trust](#)

A partnership between:

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children

Serving professionals and parents throughout the NHS - UK wide

UK Screening labs map

A clickable map of all UK screening labs

[About Us](#) | [Get Involved](#) | [Information](#) | [Research](#) | [FAQs](#) | [Links](#) | [Help](#)

Search

UK Newborn Screening Programme Centre

Information

Map of UK Screening Labs

[Click here to view details](#)

Latest News

25/02/03
New website for Newborn

Information

[Glossary of Terms](#)
[Map of UK Screening Labs](#)
[Current Standards](#)
[Reports](#)
[Working Group Summaries](#)
[Updates](#)

Research

FAQs

Links

Help

Text only

Select a location

Belfast
Royal Victoria Hospital CHT, PKU, CF

Birmingham
Birmingham Children's Hospital CHT, PKU, CF

Glasgow
The Institute of Medical Genetics CHT, PKU

Key
CHT - Congenital Hypothyroidism
PKU - Phenylketonuria
CF - Cystic Fibrosis
HbO - Haemoglobinopathies

Institute of Child Health

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children

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PDF File. This requires Adobe Acrobat reader which can be [downloaded free from the Adobe website](#).

This icon indicates that the link will open in a **new browser window**.

[Annual Report](#) [Research Review](#) [Other Publications](#)

Institute of Child Health

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children

Photogallery

LEAPS AND BOUNDS

Annual Report 2001/02

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children is well placed to continue its tradition as a national and international centre of excellence in child health, maintaining its motto of serving 'The child first and always'.

[View PDF of the 2001/02 Annual Report](#)

[Annual Report](#) [Research Review](#) [Other Publications](#)

Institute of Child Health Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Trust

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www.goshkids.nhs.uk

GOSH KIDS hey kids!

gosh!

what's up?

real stories

your story

your diary

ask doc

your body

dictionary

goshstars

Find out how Harry Potter is helping GOSH Kids to get better. Click here

Samantha says diagnosis can be very boring. Click here

Find out about your body with our body tour. Click here

It's easy to worry about coming into hospital. What will it be like? What will the people be like? How will my treatment go? GOSHKids is here to help you find out. It's somewhere you can tell your story too - Welcome to GOSHKids!

ed

gosh toons

just 4 fun

games

win! >> WRITE 4 GOSH Find out about Write4GOSH

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www.goshkids.nhs.uk

GOSH KIDS body tour

gosh!

what's up?

real stories

your story

your diary

ask doc

your body

dictionary

gosh toons

1. hair

2. skin

3. eyes

4. ears

5. brain

6. digestion

7. blood

8. muscles

9. bones

10. heart

11. lungs

12. liver

13. kidneys

Heard a word you don't know? Check out the online dictionary

gosh toons

Institute of Child Health Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Trust

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6T - Young Adults and Teens Health

CHATROOMS

MESSAGEBOARD

IN ASSOCIATION WITH BBC

www.goshteens.nhs.uk

teen species

Find out about your body with Teen Species, and then tell us about your teen life.

Body

What's happening to my body? Find out why teenagers grow taller, get spots and sprout hair. Growth | Spots | Hair

Behaviour

Are teenagers really more moody? Why do they need more sleep? Here's the low-down on life as a teenager. Moods | Rows | Sleep

Interactive body

Take an interactive tour of the teenage body.

What sex is your brain?

Do you think like a boy or a girl?

HOSPITAL LIFE

ILLNESSES

REAL STORIES

INTERACTIVE YOUR BODY

PROBLEMS

DICTIONARY

CELEBS

TOONS

COMPETITION

GAMES

PARENTS

POLL

What new feature would you most like to see?

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YOUR TURN: REAL STORIES: DICTIONARY: PROBLEMS:

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6T - Young Adults and Teens Health

CHATROOMS

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www.goshteens.nhs.uk

teen species

Find out about your body with Teen Species, and then tell us about your teen life.

Body

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HOSPITAL LIFE

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INTERACTIVE YOUR BODY

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PARENTS

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YOUR TURN: REAL STORIES: DICTIONARY: PROBLEMS:

Institute of Child Health Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children **NHS**
NHS Trust

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gosh tots	GOSH kids	WRITE 4 GOSH	GT
GOSHTots for young children	GOSHKids for kids	Write4GOSH children's writing prize	GT for young adults and teens

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Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Trust, Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3JH
Tel: +44 (0)20 7405 9200, Fax: +44 (0)20 7829 8643
and The Institute of Child Health, 30 Goulford Street, London WC1N 1EH
Tel: +44 (0)20 7242 9789, Fax: +44 (0)20 7831 0488

Institute of Child Health Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children **NHS**
NHS Trust

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gosh tots [www.goshkids.nhs.uk](#)

Welcome to GOSHTots

My visit to hospital

tots

smile

playtime

peter pan

GOSH pets

the tots

smile!

playtime

peter pan

GOSH pets

parents

If you would like to support the work of GOSH please visit our [charity website](#)

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Institute of Child Health Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children **NHS**
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WRITE 4 GOSH

The Great Ormond Street Children's Writing Prize 2003

[www.write4gosh.nhs.uk](#)

news

WRITE 4 GOSH

stories

judges

prizes

how to enter

hints and help

GOSH kids

Write4GOSH marks the 150th birthday of Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital by bringing together stories and experiences from children across the country. [Find out more about the competition >>](#)

write

press rules links parents

Parents if you would like to support the work of GOSH please visit our [charity website](#)

Celebrity judge Danni Minogue enjoys nothing more than curling up with a good book. [Enter your story now >>](#)

4

The Great Ormond Street Children's writing prize

Bestselling children's author Jacqueline Wilson launched Write4GOSH with a special workshop for young writers.

Registered Charity No. 235825

Institute of Child Health Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children **NHS**
NHS Trust

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gosh tots [www.goshkids.nhs.uk](#)

Smile

My visit to hospital

tots

smile

playtime

peter pan

GOSH pets

Smiles at night

SMILES

parents

If you would like to support the work of GOSH please visit our [charity website](#)

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Tel: +44 (0)20 7405 9200, Fax: +44 (0)20 7829 8643

Children First **NHS**
and always

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GT LATEST

NEW ON KIDS1ST

GT
Health and life for teens and young adults

KIDSFIRST
Hospital and health for children

TOTSFIRST
Coming into hospital for younger children

WORLDFIRST
Bringing the world together through health

Find out what it's really like in hospital.
Share your view on the world.
Problems? Take a look at the problem page.
The news and stories that matter to you.
Looking 4 answers? Try the health and hospital messageboards.
Get the latest celeb goss from Sneak magazine.
Go global. Check out WorldFirst.

Read lots of real stories about health and hospital.
Find out about your body and your health.
What do kids really think of burgers and chips?
Being bullied? Find out what you can do to stop it.
Check out our wizard Harry Potter section.
Take a look our fun stories about your favourite stars.
Read children's real stories from all over the world.

Last updated: 27th June 2003
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Written by GOSH Trust.
Reviewed by Children First
About us

Children First **NHS**
and always

tots 1st

Welcome to Tots First

my visit to hospital
tots
smile
playtime
learning monster
tots pets

my visit to hospital
the tots
smile!
playtime
learning monster
tots pets
HOSPITAL

parents

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Children First **NHS**
and always

HEALTH

REAL STORIES
Read Katie's story about her birthmark. Share your STORY...

WHAT IS HOSPITAL REALLY LIKE?
What to expect on your first day. And what YOUR HOSPITAL is like.

STAR BURST
The inside story on BUSTED, BECKS and all your favourite stars!

HOSPITAL

My hospital
Treatment
Dictionary
Messageboard

Body Tour
Find out about how your BODY WORKS.

Dictionary
What's that word mean? OUR DICTIONARY can help you find out.

TOON TIME
Find out about HOSPITAL life with the Toons.

Life

News
Bullying
Problems

Problems
Find out about BULLYING and other PROBLEMS.

Parents

About us
Safety
Data Protection

your world
Send in your pictures

wizard fun
Take a look at our magical new Wizard section

Have your say about this website

Children First **NHS**
and always

interactive

INSIDE STORY
Inside your world
Problem page
Sneak
Celebs
Get gaming news

INSIDE HOSPITAL
Your hospital
Ask the expert
Messageboard
Dictionary
Treatment

INSIDE HEALTH
Real stories
Illnesses
Body tour
Messageboard
Problems

INSIDE GT
Team
Links
Feedback
Contact us
About us

INSIDE CELEBS
Fact files on all the hottest
Latest celeb goss in this week's Sneak

INSIDE YOUR WORLD
Sign-up as a GT Columnist
Tom and Joleen have their say on life.

INSIDE YOUR HEALTH
What to expect
Day 2 Day
Messageboard
Treatment

INSIDE YOUR REAL STORIES
Checkout the stories
Share your experiences
your body
Problem page
messageboard
Your Goss
Illnesses
Disabilities

INSIDE YOUR DICTIONARY
Dictionary

INSIDE YOUR ASK THE EXPERT
How old are you?
Under 6
6-7
8-9
10-11
12-13
14-15

Institute of Child Health and
Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Trust

Research Review²⁰⁰¹

A year of excellence and innovation





Review of the Year

IT PROVED ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL AND HIGH-PROFILE YEAR FOR THE INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH AND GREAT ORMOND STREET CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL. HERE ARE SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS.

Genetics Knowledge Park to be set up in London

The Government announced the creation of a Genetics Knowledge Park based in London, one of five across the UK, to be led by ICH Dean Professor David Latchman. The role of the knowledge parks is to accelerate application of new information from the field of genetics within the NHS. This will involve many new innovative genetic research projects, the training of nurses, doctors and genetics professionals and non-professionals, and a programme to engage and inform the general public as these developments take place, including a website and annual conferences. Innovations will be developed in partnership with industry to ensure that the UK benefits from its investment and expertise in human genetics. In particular, *IDEAS* will develop information packs and lifestyle advice for the 10.7 million multi-ethnic population of London. Much of the focus of the research programme is on how genetic variants can predispose to common illnesses, such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, asthma and epilepsy.

The London *IDEAS* park is based across the University College, Imperial College and St George's Hospital Medical School sites, together with their affiliated NHS trusts.

*London *IDEAS*: Innovation, Dissemination, Evaluation and Application Strategy for genetics across the community.

Top class research

The Institute of Child Health was recently awarded the maximum score by the Government for its academic work.

It received 5* for its research, the highest mark available, in the Research Assessment Exercise conducted by the Higher Education Funding Council of England. This means that most of its research has been judged to be of international significance.

ICH dean Professor David Latchman (pictured above) said: "This result comes from hard work by many staff over several years, particularly by the previous dean, Professor Roland Levinsky. Coming after we received the Queen's Award for Higher Education and an 'excellent' teaching rating from the Quality Assurance Agency, the excellence of the ICH has again been commended."

"The ICH has substantially improved its research standing since the 1992 result. Radical changes were implemented including grouping research into seven themes and closer work with clinical practice. That commitment and investment have paid off. Management of R&D in the joint institution is now considered a model."

First UK gene therapy lab marks start of trials

A specialist laboratory to facilitate clinical trials of gene therapy for children with rare immune deficiencies was opened in 2001 with joint funding from the ICH, GOS and the national Jeans for Genes Appeal.

Trials began in July on a condition known as X-SCID (X-linked Severe Combined Immunodeficiency) where a genetic defect results in the child having no natural immune system.

Seven-month-old Rhys Evans (pictured above) from South Wales was admitted to GOS in May and kept in isolation to avoid infection. This timing coincided with the completion of the laboratory and Rhys was the first patient in Britain to benefit from pioneering gene therapy techniques. A normally working copy of his faulty gene was added to his immune cells in the lab and infused back into his body.

Within just four weeks Rhys was showing signs of developing a fully working immune system to protect him from infection.

The ICH's Dr Adrian Thrasher, who led the trial, said: "Gene therapy is about turning the enormous advances in our understanding of genes into real cures for real children. Rhys' successful treatment is very exciting, and we are now proceeding with trials for other immune conditions."



Streamlining healthcare for children

The Government appointed the ICH's Professor Al Aynsley-Green (pictured above) as the first national director of children's healthcare services, tasked with modernising NHS and social care services for children and adolescents.

As part of the national service framework for children, he will work with an expert group to develop new national standards across the NHS and social services for children's health services. The new standards will help to ensure better access and a smoother progression for children throughout the system - from initial contact with the NHS via GP surgery or NHS hospital through to social services support.

"Children will have access to a modern National Health Service designed to meet their needs," says Professor Aynsley-Green. "It is possibly the best chance in 50 years to put children's lives and health at the centre of Government policy."

Joint website launched

A two-year project to turn the joint institution's website (www.gosh.nhs.uk) into a respected child health portal got underway with the launch of the first phase of development in September. The second phase of content development got the site shipshape for a UK-wide publicity campaign for the hospital's 150th birthday celebrations which began in January 2002.

The site's web editor David South has been working on the project since arriving here in June, having worked on award-winning websites for the United Nations.

"The first phase saw collaboration from across both institutions," he says. "An impressive amount was done to lay the foundations for future improvements to the content on the site."

Over three million children in the UK now surf the internet and the next step included the addition of a 'kids-only' area, offering children the chance to find out about the hospital and their health in a fun, non-threatening way.

Unlike commercial operations, the hospital and the ICH are an unbiased resource for the public to turn to. Currently the joint site has more than 200 factsheets for families covering tests and procedures, illnesses, diseases and operations. It also has the complete archive of Dr Jane Collins' Times column with its jargon-free look at child health issues.

Senior staff promotions announced

A raft of senior staff promotions at GOSH/ICH has confirmed once again the institution's world-class status as a centre for paediatric research, training and treatment.

The appointments, made by University College London, included the promotion of consultant dermatologist John Harper (pictured above right) to Professor of Paediatric Dermatology - and of consultant radiologist Isky Gordon (above left) to Professor of Paediatric Imaging, another newly-created position. Marie-Louise Newell became Professor of Paediatric Epidemiology and Christine Power was named as Professor of Epidemiology and Public Health.

Also moving up are Nigel Klein, who became Reader in Infectious Disease and Immunology, Carol Dezateux, who became Reader in Paediatric Epidemiology, Suzanne Filteau, promoted to Reader in International Nutrition, and David Goldblatt, who became Reader in Immunology.

Susan Hall was made a Senior Lecturer in Developmental Vascular Biology.

The promotions took effect from 1 October 2001.



Research Review 2002
Building on success

Awards, Honours and Prizes 2002

Staff from the ICH and GOSH received national and international recognition for their research achievements in 2002

Dr John Achermann received the Young Investigator Award from the European Society of Paediatric Endocrinology & Metabolism. He was an invited speaker at the Brazilian Society of Endocrinology & Metabolism (Brasilia), Society for Endocrinology (London), IUPAC/SCOPE congress on endocrine disruption (Yokohama), and Henning Anderson Workshop (Copenhagen).

Dr Paul Aurora received the European Respiratory Society, Young Investigator of the Year award. This was in recognition of published work in the field of lung transplantation.

Professor Albert Aynsley-Green was made the 12th Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother Fellow by the trustees of the Nuffield Trust.

Professor Martin Barrett was awarded the James Spence Medal for outstanding contributions to the advancement or clarification of paediatric knowledge at the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health 2002 Spring meeting.

Dr Maria Bitner-Glindzicz was invited to speak at the Danish Medical Society in Copenhagen, the Irish Society of Audiology in Cork and the British Society of Audiological Physicians.

Dr Julie Carter received the runner-up prize for the Royal Institution of Great Britain, Best 2002 Science Graduate.

Professor Andrew Costello gave a keynote lecture entitled *Strategies to reduce neonatal mortality* at the International Society of Tropical Paediatrics meeting, Ankara, in September 2002. He was also invited to give the following lectures:

- *Strategies to improve neonatal health*

outcomes at the WHO Global Consultation in Child and Adolescent Health and Development in Stockholm, Sweden.

- *Nutritional and neonatal outcome in developing countries* at a USAID/Wellcome Trust meeting in Oxford on nutrition as a preventative strategy against adverse pregnancy outcomes in developing countries.
- *Integrated models of community-based perinatal and newborn care: what do we do now?* at the 16th International Biennial Paediatric conference in Karachi, Pakistan.
- *The poor mother and infant: Ethical issues in international mother and child health*, at the Ethical Society, London.

Mr Peter Cuckow received a Royal College of Surgeons pump-priming award for The Urodynamic Consequences of Bladder Outflow Obstruction on the Developing Foetal Bladder.

Dr Jena Derakhani Hamdani received a Young Scientist award for her presentation to the Mini Symposium on *Nutrition and brain function and development* in September 2002.

Professor Carol Dezateux has been appointed Chair of the MRC Autism Research Strategy Initiative. She has become a member of the Cancer Research UK Population and Behavioural Sciences committee.

Dr Simon Eaton was awarded the 2002 Sir David Cuthbertson Medal, given to investigators under the age of 40 for their contribution to nutritional research.

Dr Simone Fiore, MRC Training Fellow, received an award from the Foetal Medicine Foundation for her spoken presentation on foetal growth in HIV infected mothers.

Professor Linda Franck has been elected a Fellow of the European Academy of Nursing

Science. She was also appointed Chair of Children's Nursing Research Studies at the ICH.

Mr Robert Garrett-Cox won the prestigious Peter Paul Rickham Prize at the 2002 British Association of Paediatric Surgeons meeting for his presentation entitled *Glutamine: a novel therapy for neonatal sepsis?* Supervised by Simon Eaton and Agostino Pierro.

Dr David Goldblatt gave an invited lecture on *Immune memory to the pneumococcus* at the Third International Symposium on Pneumococci and Pneumococcal Disease, Alaska (May 2002). He gave two keynote lectures at the Australasian Clinical Immunology and Allergy Society Annual Meeting in Adelaide and lectured on *Conjugate vaccines* at the National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance of Vaccine Preventable Disease in Sydney, the State of Victoria Department of Health and Ageing, Melbourne and the Murdoch Research Institute, and the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne (October 2002). Dr Goldblatt also gave invited talks on vaccines at the Inaugural Aventis Pasteur Clinical Immunology Seminar in Lyon during October 2002, and at the Conférence Européenne de Pédiatrie and the European Board of Pediatrics Annual Meeting in Brussels (December 2002).

Dr Ian Hann was invited to join the National Cancer Research Institute haematology/oncology studies board.

Professor David Hatch was appointed chairman of the GMC's Continuing Professional Development Board, was awarded the John Snow medal by the Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland, and was appointed a member of the Neonatal Society.

Grants and Donations 2002

We are grateful to the organisations listed below for their generosity. The work of the ICH also depends on the ongoing support of a number of organisations acknowledged at the end of this list.

Action Research

Professor A Pierro, Dr S Eaton, Professor C Dezateux, Dr A Wade, Dr HKF van Saene, Dr N Klein, Dr AP Reynolds, Professor DA Lloyd and Professor L Spitz an award to support the Surgical Infants Glutamine Nutrition Trial: Glutamine supplementation in parenteral nutrition of surgical newborn infants.

Professor P Scambler, Dr N Shah, Professor P Milla, Dr A Philips (Royal Free Hospital) and **Dr R Thompson** (Kings College Hospital), to study the isolation of the gene defect causing microvillous atrophy. **Professor R Winter** an award to develop a phenotype database to discover malformation genes.

Alistair Berkley Charitable Trust

Dr S Hartley for community based rehabilitation in Uganda: monitoring and evaluating practices with a view to developing suitable indicators.

Arthritis Research Campaign

Dr K Gustafsson and Professor A Thrasher to fund a PhD Studentship to study the role of dendritic cells in the induction of immunity and tolerance to collagen II.

Professor M Londei to study modulation of chronic arthritis via the generation of Tr1 cells and the comparison with the activity of B regulatory cells.

Association for International Cancer Research

Dr V Budhram-Mahadeo to study the mechanisms mediating over-expression of the Brn-3b transcription factor in breast tumours.

Baxter Health Care

Professor A Pierro, Dr S Eaton, Dr N Klein, Dr K Bethune, Professor P Milla and Dr S Hill to study the effect of different intravenous fat emulsions on fat utilisation, peroxidation and immune function in infants and children on parenteral nutrition. **Dr R Liesner** an award to test the efficacy, immunogenicity, safety and

pharmacokinetics of recombinant anti-haemophilic factor manufactured and formulated without added human or animal proteins.

Dr P Lister and Dr M Peters for the investigation of the role of the protein C pathway in necrotising enterocolitis of critically ill neonates.

Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council

Dr M Hubank an award to investigate a new approach to the biological interpretation and analysis of Gene Array Time Series Data.

Dr J Sowden an award to study tbx20 orthologues and the generation of morphological diversity.

Dr A Stoker to characterise the signalling mechanisms of receptor tyrosine phosphates CRYP-alpha.

Biocontrol Ltd.

Dr J Soothill for biological control of infections and infestations specified as potential areas for investigation, and the commercial development thereof.

Birth Defects Foundation

Professor R Winter and Dr N Prescott an award for an investigation of the role of clefting syndrome genes in nonsyndromic cleft lip and palate.

Breast Cancer Campaign

Dr V Budhram-Mahadeo to research Brn-3b transcription factor in breast tumourgenesis-mechanism of regulating cellular growth.

British Consulate - General

Professor T Cole, Professor H Pan and Professor Y Yang (Institute of Child Health of Shanghai), to monitor and prevent malnutrition and obesity in childhood.

British Council

Professor J Stocks, Dr J Pillow and Dr G Hulskamp for the implementation of low frequency forced oscillation technique in the neonatal intensive care unit.

Dr L Wedderburn for a collaborative workshop with representatives from The Netherlands, held at the ICH.

British Council For The Prevention Of Blindness

Dr R Gilbert for a national surveillance study of congenital toxoplasmosis

British Educational Communications and Technology Agency

Mr C Clayton, Ms N Jolleff, Ms K Price, Ms C Davidson (Cenmac) and **Mr M Dale-Emberton** (Charlton School), for an AIDS communication project.

British Heart Foundation

Professor R Anderson, Dr D Henderson and Professor N Brown (St George's Hospital Medical School), for a programme of research to study fate and function of extra cardiac cell populations in heart development and malformation.

Professor R Anderson, Mr M Kanani, Mr M Elliot, Ms M Jahangir (St George's Medical Trust) and **Professor T Ebels** (Groningen University), to investigate the surgical management of the left atrioventricular valve in atrioventricular septal defects.

Dr B Brar and Professor D Latchman to investigate the protective and hypertrophic effects of urocortin.

Professor C Dezateux, Dr R Knowles and Dr C Wren (Freeman Hospital, Newcastle-upon-Tyne), for a national cohort study into the outcome at school age of congenital heart disease.

Professor D Latchman to investigate the role of transcriptional co-factors in cardiac hypertrophy.

Professor D Latchman, Dr A Stephanou and Professor D Yellon (UCL), an award to investigate the role of the STAT-1 transcription factor in ischaemia/reperfusion injury in the intact heart.

Professor D Latchman and

Dr A Stephanou, an award to investigate the regulation of the capases pathway in cardiac cells and the intact heart in response to ischaemia/reperfusion.

Dr A Stephanou, Dr D Yellon (UCL) and Professor D Latchman to investigate the role of the C-terminal of STAT-1 in ischaemic/reperfusion injury in cardiac cells.

B Evans (City University), for equipment to study an objective measure of the benefit afforded by precision tinted spectacles in subjects with dyslexia.

Janssen-Cilag

Dr H Cross for an open naturalistic individual dose optimisation trial assessing tolerability and efficacy in recently diagnosed patients with epilepsy.

Jeans For Genes

Professor J Stocks, Dr J Pillow and Dr G Hulskamp for the development and validation of new lung function equipment in the intensive care unit.

Jerome Lejeune Foundation

Dr D Muller, Professor S Grantham-McGregor, Dr C Ani and Dr R Moy (ICH, University of Birmingham), a renewal of funding for a randomised controlled trial of the effects of antioxidant supplementation on the mental development, growth and health of children with Down's syndrome.

Dr D Muller, Dr S Logan, Dr R Gilbert, Professor T Cole, Professor Grantham McGregor, Dr C Ani and Dr J Ellis an award for a randomised controlled trial of the effects of antioxidant and folic acid supplementation on the mental development, growth and health of children with Down's Syndrome.

Kidney Research Aid Fund

Mr P Ransley for a clinical trial of deflux for endoscopic correction of severe vesicoureteric reflux and the effects on improving bladder function outcome.

An annual donation to **Professor A Woolf** and **Dr M Godley** for a trial of endoscopic treatment of vesicoureteric reflux in infants.

Leukaemia Research Fund

Dr W Qasim an award for the development of T cell therapies to improve outcomes in allergenic bone marrow transplantation for haematological malignancies.

London Regional NHS Trust

Dr C Dezateux and Dr S Oliver (Institute of Education), to explore the implications for parents and professionals of carrier screening for cystic fibrosis and sickle cell disorders

London School Of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Dr W Cubitt, Dr R Hayes (LSHTM) and Dr D Ross (LSHTM), to support the MEMA Kwa Vijana Project.

Dr H Cross, for the open naturalistic individual dose optimisation trial assessing tolerability and efficacy in recently diagnosed patients with epilepsy who are treatment naïve or have failed one anti-epileptic drug treatment.

Medical Research Council (MRC)

Professor A Copp, Dr D Gerrelli and Ms A Murray four awards for research into Consolidation of the MRC / Wellcome Trust Human Developmental Biology Resource.

Mr D Jenkins, Professor A Woolf, Dr S Feather, Mr S Welham and Dr L McCarthy for genetics and developmental biology of vesicoureteric reflux (VUR).

Professor J Harper with Professor WOCM Cookson (Oxford), received funding for family recruitment to study the molecular genetics of atopic dermatitis

Professor A Lucas for research into paediatric nutrition.

Dr D Muller to study the urinary metabolites of vitamin E.

Dr P Riley to investigate the role of Hand1 in cell movement and migration during cardiac morphogenesis.

Mount Everest Foundation

Professor Monty Mythen, for the development of a high altitude medicine and physiology education website (space and extreme environment physiology)

MRC/Wellcome Trust

Professor A Copp, Dr Gerrelli, Dr A Murray and Professor C Rodeck (UCL), for consolidation of a Human Developmental Biology Resource.

National Alliance for Autism Research

Professor D Skuse and Professor E Lander, to identify a genetic cause of male susceptibility to autism.

National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression

Professor P Scambler and Dr S Sivagnanasundaram for the identification and evaluation of epistatic interactions underlying prepulse inhibition in mouse hybrids: a model for schizophrenia.

National Kidney Research Fund

Dr L Rees to investigate the optimum range of circulating parathyroid hormone, in children with chronic renal failure that maximises growth and minimises renal osteodystrophy.

Dr P Winyard an award to characterise the T30H model of spontaneous urinary tract mal-development.

Professor A Woolf for research into angiotensins and kidney vascular development. Professor Woolf received further funding (co-applicant Dr P Winyard) for a NKRF Studentship.

Neuroblastoma Society

Dr A Sala, to study targeted expression of B-MYB to the neuroectoderm.

NHS Executive

Professor L Spitz, Dr S Reilly, Dr M Lawson, Dr H McConachie, Dr H Cass, Dr L Carr, Dr R Hastings and Ms G Craig additional funding for medical and psychosocial effects of gastrostomy feeding interventions for children with cerebral palsy and their families.

Nuffield Foundation

Dr D Glaser, Dr G Hodges and Ms V Prior, for a child care consultation team follow-up study. **Dr L Rees and Dr S Waller** to investigate the optimum range of circulating parathyroid hormone in children with chronic renal failure that maximises growth and minimises renal osteodystrophy.

Olivia Hodson Fellowship

Dr F Gibson received funding to support a Children's Cancer Nursing Fellow at GOSH.

Orphan Europe

Mrs B Lewin, Mrs M Rogers, Dr B Gasper and Dr E Gerritsen (St Clara Hospital, Rotterdam), for a study to look at psychological sequelae of adenosine deaminase deficiency following bone marrow transplant.

Dr W Van't Hoff and Ms Collin for the development of a national registry of cystinosis patients.

Parkinson's Disease Society

Professor D Latchman for analysis of the role of parkin in familial and non-familial Parkinson's disease.

Pfizer

Dr A Jaffe, Dr K Yoshimura (Jikei University, Tokyo) and **Professor E Alton** (Imperial College), an award for assessment of CFTR function in vivo patients with diffuse pan-bronchiolitis.

Philip Ullman Trust

Dr S Eaton and Professor A Pierro an award for an isotope ratio mass spectrometer

PPP Foundation

Mr D South for his role as project manager of the Virtual Children's Hospital in collaboration with the University of Sheffield.

Primary Immunodeficiency Association

Dr H B Gaspar, Dr P Veys and Dr A Thrasher for the analysis of immune function following low intensity conditioning stem cell transplantation for severe congenital immunodeficiency.

Dr HB Gaspar and Dr A Thrasher, an award for the development of *in vitro* and *in vivo* models of gene therapy for X-linked lymphoproliferative syndrome.

Dr A Thrasher received funding to investigate gene therapy for Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome and an award for the clinical trial of gene therapy for X-SCID.

Roundabout



Happy birthday Radio GOSH

Radio GOSH celebrated its 10th birthday last month by helping the hospital's radio station celebrate its 21st birthday in style.



Radio GOSH's 10th birthday was celebrated last month by the hospital's radio station, which is celebrating its 21st birthday in style.

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JOINT WEBSITE LAUNCHED

A two-year project to turn our joint institution's website (www.gosh.co.uk) into a regional child health portal got underway with the launch of the first phase of development in September. The second phase of content development will get the site ship shape for a 60-page publicity campaign as the hospital's 110th birthday celebrations begin in January.

The project was led by the hospital's IT department, with the hospital's IT department, which is celebrating its 21st birthday in style.

The project was led by the hospital's IT department, which is celebrating its 21st birthday in style.

The project was led by the hospital's IT department, which is celebrating its 21st birthday in style.



This page found you a surprise visit to GOSH Hospital



A day in the life...

New GOSH/ICH web-site

With over three million children in the UK using the Internet, and a total of 12 million UK citizens browsing it through work, school or the home, no organisation can afford not to make the most of this valuable communications tool. Estimates vary but some put the number of health-related websites at more than 600,000. That is an even more important issue, as users search for accurate information. It is in this context that the new Hospital and ICH website, www.gosh.ich.ac.uk, launched in September. With editor David Smith puts us in the picture.

With access to the Internet now available at all ages, that generation which is known as the 'net generation' is under 100,000 years old. By the late 1990s, over 10 million children aged 10 and younger had access to the Internet in their homes. The Internet is a vast source of information, but it is also a source of misinformation. It is in this context that the new Hospital and ICH website, www.gosh.ich.ac.uk, launched in September. With editor David Smith puts us in the picture.

The new website was developed over a period of 18 months, with a focus on the needs of the children and young people who use it. The website is designed to be a source of information for the children and young people who use it. It is a source of information for the children and young people who use it. It is a source of information for the children and young people who use it. It is a source of information for the children and young people who use it.

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Simple access to our content

The website is a source of information for the children and young people who use it. It is a source of information for the children and young people who use it. It is a source of information for the children and young people who use it. It is a source of information for the children and young people who use it.

Looked up 2000 issues

The website is a source of information for the children and young people who use it. It is a source of information for the children and young people who use it. It is a source of information for the children and young people who use it. It is a source of information for the children and young people who use it.

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Personal development

The website is a source of information for the children and young people who use it. It is a source of information for the children and young people who use it. It is a source of information for the children and young people who use it. It is a source of information for the children and young people who use it.

Technology for all

The website is a source of information for the children and young people who use it. It is a source of information for the children and young people who use it. It is a source of information for the children and young people who use it. It is a source of information for the children and young people who use it.

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Dean's dispatch



My 1000th day in the world of GOSH is all behind me. It's a day of reflection, of looking back at the journey that has brought me to this point. It's a day of looking forward, of thinking about the future. It's a day of looking at the people who have made this journey possible. It's a day of looking at the challenges that lie ahead. It's a day of looking at the opportunities that are available. It's a day of looking at the future with hope and optimism.

The journey has been a long one, but it has been a journey of growth and learning. I have learned a great deal about the world of GOSH, and about the people who work here. I have learned a great deal about the challenges that we face, and about the opportunities that are available. I have learned a great deal about the future, and about the role that we can play in shaping it. I am grateful for the support and encouragement that I have received, and I am excited about the future that lies ahead.

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According to the website, the organization's primary focus is on providing support and resources for individuals who are struggling with addiction. The website also features a section for "About Us" and a "Contact Us" page.

NEW LIFE'S WEBSITE



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NEW LIFE'S WEBSITE

A PARTNERSHIP FOR PROGRESS

THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN MOROCCO





Erdenezuu Hild is a 16th century monastery in Harbin, the capital of the Mongolian empire until the 13th century, when Kublai Khan moved it to Beijing. Erdenezuu was the first Buddhist centre in Mongolia, and at its height 1,000 monks were in residence worshipping in 100 temples, all but three of which were destroyed in the 1930's during the Stalin purges. UNESCO has promised funding for restoration work on this important cultural site.



A PARTNERSHIP FOR PROGRESS

"For years we were under the domination of foreign countries. So really, Mongolia is a new nation." With these words, Prime Minister M. Enkhsaikhan described the enormity of the task ahead for Mongolians. While Mongolia has been an independent nation for most of this century, this has not been the case with its economy. Just as a new democratic nation was born in the 1990s, so Mongolia's economy lost the large subsidies and trading arrangements it had in the past with the Soviet Union. The time to learn about free markets and the global economy had arrived.

Under socialism, Mongolia was dependent on the Soviet Union. Prior to the socialist revolution in 1921, the country experienced hundreds of years under the influence of the Chinese. It is only since 1990 that Mongolia has had an opportunity to build the foundations of an independent economy and political culture. But it takes money and know-how to make the transition work. This is the kind of nation-building support the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) specializes in. UNDP's fifth country plan for Mongolia has come to an end, and in cooperation with the Mongolian Government the sixth — the Partnership for Progress — has begun .

Meeting the challenges of transition

The international community rapidly responded to Mongolia's needs in the early 1990s. Along with the large international donors, the UN system is playing a pivotal role with UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO and UNDP to assist in the country's social reconstruction. Other agencies now operating in Mongolia include UNESCO, UNV, UNHCHR, World Bank, and IMF. The UN's capacity to coordinate, not only within the UN family of organizations, but also with donors and the international NGO community has proved extremely useful in mobilizing the technical assistance needed at this critical time. The goal is capacity building, or the transformation of both the human and economic resource base to fit the economic and social demands of transition.

UNDP's Partnership for Progress with the Government of Mongolia serves as the framework for assisting the Government to combat the worst effects of poverty and social disintegration brought on by economic transition. The programmes and projects mounted with UNDP assistance not only tackle the lack of material resources, but also the dearth of practical experience in the strategies and methodologies required to nurture open government and encourage democratic procedures, protect human rights, preserve the environment and promote the private sector.

Mongolia is a large country with poor infrastructure. This means it is not only difficult to transport food or make a phone call, but also to develop and deliver programmes that reach the entire country. It is through the expertise of the UNDP, drawing experience from around the world, that these obstacles to a market economy and an open democracy can be overcome.

UNDP has had a country office in Mongolia since the 1970s. UNDP's resource mobilization target for the five year programme from 1997 to 2001 is US \$27.5 million, with 45 per cent to be directed to poverty alleviation, 30 per cent to governance and 15 per cent to environmental protection. With this material input and the goodwill it generates, the Mongolian Government can design appropriate social and political structures to support their efforts in seeking lasting solutions to the problems brought on by transition. Mongolia can then become an equal player in the global community of the 21st Century.

UNDP in Mongolia

The UNDP's programmes in Mongolia follow the global principle of helping people to help themselves. Through a close working relationship with the Mongolian Government (the Partnership for Progress), UNDP personnel work with many thousands of Mongolian counterparts in government, academia and NGOs all over the country. In addition, UNDP has a large contingent of United Nations Volunteers (UNVs) deployed in Mongolia. There are 27 international UNVs working in all UNDP programme areas and a further 26 national UNVs working as community activists to foster participation in the poverty alleviation programme. Another six national UNVs are involved in the UNESCO/UNDP decentralization project.

A peaceful transition

The transition in the 1990s from socialism to democracy and free markets has profoundly transformed the country's political and economic character. Mongolia is a young democracy that is also a model for bloodless political revolution. Today, this participatory democracy boasts scores of newspapers, dozens of political parties and a vigorous parliamentary system. On the economic front, a command-based economy has been replaced by free markets. But there has been a high price to pay in social disintegration and dysfunction, as the former social supports disappear and their replacements fail to "catch" everyone. As with all social upheaval, vulnerable groups — the elderly, the young, the weak — bear the brunt of the social and economic shocks as the old gives way to the new.

The bubble bursts

Before the 1990s, the Mongolian economy was totally dependent on subsidies from the Soviet Union. The state owned all means of production and private enterprise was foresworn. Farmers and herders were organized into cooperatives. Factories had more workers than they needed. Wages were low but no one starved. The state provided for the basics of life — health care, education, jobs and pensions. Free fuel was provided to get through the severely cold winters, and during blizzards lives were saved in stranded communities with food and medicine drops by Russian helicopters.

The bubble burst in 1991 when the Soviet Union disintegrated and the subsidies came to an end. Prior to this, communist countries accounted for 99 per cent of Mongolia's imports and 94 per cent of its exports. Mongolia's economy suddenly lost its buttress and immediately collapsed.

A sense of freedom

Although the economic picture was bleak, politically Mongolians rejoiced and embraced the principles of Western parliamentary democracy. A new sense of political and personal freedom took hold. Freedom of religion ensured a revival of Buddhism. Monasteries sacked and razed under the Communists were restored and religious observance once again became part of daily life.

Collectivization began to give way to free markets and privatization. A voucher system was used to redistribute the assets of many state-owned entities. Each citizen was issued with vouchers to the value of 10,000 tugriks (at the time worth US \$100). They could be bought and sold like shares of stock.

Livestock was privatized and previous limitations regarding ownership of animals were lifted. As a result, the composition of herds changed and the numbers of animals soared to the highest levels in 50 years. While the collapse of the state sector has led to severe hardship, many nomadic herders who astutely manage their herds are self-sufficient in meat and milk. Many continue the old energy saving ways, including collecting dung for fuel and using their animals for transport. Some find it possible to live almost completely outside the cash economy.

Mongolia's harsh climate has always made human existence precarious. Not surprisingly, Mongolians are a tough resilient people. In the 13th century they conquered half the world. Today, they must conquer poverty.



Above: A single mother with five children, Ms. Badamkhand is one of five members of a knitting and weaving cooperative in Tsetserleg. The women started the project with a loan from the local Poverty Alleviation Council. Ms. Badamkhand knits coats, wool socks, scarves and jackets out of camel hair. Working from her home, she is teaching her youngest daughter how to knit.



Transition shock

The spectre of the worst aspects of market economies soon loomed for many who had known only a poor but predictable life under a command economy. Suddenly unemployment, inflation and reduced services became the norm. Previously reliable export markets in the newly constituted Commonwealth of Independent States disappeared entirely, leaving a ballooning trade deficit and a plummeting tugrig. The fall in global prices for cashmere and copper have only exacerbated an already critical situation.

Poverty strikes

Poverty and starvation hit with a vengeance. According to Food and Agriculture Organization figures, a third of the population now lives at starvation levels. The demise of collectivized farming has contributed to both a shortage of food and a reduction in food self-sufficiency. Thousands of homeless children work, beg or steal in the streets of the capital, Ulaan Baatar. Many descend into the sewers for warmth to escape the subzero temperatures that prevail for most of the year; while others seek refuge in the few children's shelters in the city.

Unemployment is high. Women are particularly vulnerable, with more than 100,000 summarily removed from the pension rolls at the beginning of 1997. The retired, whose pensions have decreased dramatically in value are also in severe distress, with almost all relying on their families, friends and neighbours. Those without such support are left to live a precarious existence.

In Arvaihēr, 22 income-generating projects are being implemented under the Poverty Alleviation Programme. With a loan from the Programme, the local Women's Council trained more than a thousand women over two years in income-generating activities. One widow with 11 children, set up a small business making brushes and ropes out of horsehair. Two of her daughters, left, use an invention of their father to twist horsehair into rope, which is later used to secure the canvas that covers gers, Mongolian tents.



The Women's Development Fund was set up with assistance from UNDP to give small credit to women starting income-generating activities such as baking, bootmaking, dressmaking and handicrafts.

More than 100,000 women like Mrs. Badamgarav (above) were summarily removed from pension rolls at the beginning of 1997. Retired at 45 with four children, she lives in Harhorin, where she started a bakery with a MNT125,000 loan (US\$150), part of a revolving loan fund financed by the European Union to promote small businesses for women.

Poverty alleviation

To reverse a rapidly deteriorating situation, the Government instituted a six-year National Poverty Alleviation Programme (NPAP) with the primary objective of reducing poverty by 10 per cent by the year 2000. Designed with assistance from UNDP, donors and Mongolian NGOs, the NPAP is founded on new principles unseen before in Mongolia. Responsibility is decentralized, with each of the 21 aimags (provinces) having a local Poverty Alleviation Council with responsibility for identification, formulation and appraisal and approval of projects. Thus the people of the area can respond to local needs — identify them, propose solutions to problems and act to determine their own futures.



The Mongolian National Poverty Alleviation Programme addresses a wide range of social issues, including income poverty and the crisis in the health and education sectors. Solutions to such urgent social welfare problems are a high priority for the Mongolian Government — and international assistance is critical. The introduction of fees for health and education services that were previously free has placed an unbearable financial strain on some families. School drop-out rates and truancy are problems in both urban and rural areas. The costs associated with general maintenance and heating of public buildings adds another financial burden in the transition period.

Emphasis on women

A US \$10 million soft loan from the World Bank for the period 1996 to 1999 supports Mongolia's efforts to follow up on the commitments of the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference for Women and other recent global initiatives.

The NPAP institutional framework focuses on explicit measures to alleviate poverty by attending to sustainable livelihoods, employment creation, gender equality, grass roots development and human resource capacity building. Mongolia's historically high levels of literacy, health care and education auger well for the future of this approach, in spite of the many obstacles facing the people.

In addition, the Women's Development Fund and the Social Assistance Fund have mobilized national NGOs and international donors for both income generation schemes and distress relief for the vulnerable. The success of women in actively implementing projects with the help of the various funds is a testament to the strength and resilience of ordinary Mongolians.

Working with the National Poverty Alleviation Programme initiatives, the UN System Action Plan and Strategy provides technical assistance and capacity training to realize the objectives of the national programme.

In all, eight new projects are on the agenda for 1997, including credit provision, skills and vocational training, water and sanitation provision, urban renewal, pre-school education and one capacity building project at the institutional level.

Freedom of information

Under the Partnership for Progress, UNDP is working with donors and international NGOs to promote and foster a participatory democracy. A key component of good government and democracy is the free flow of information. That is why UNDP has placed a significant portion of its resources into ensuring government, NGOs and citizens have access to state-of-the-art computer communications technology, especially the Internet and e-mail. The Governance and Economic Transition Programme will have nine new projects by the end of 1997: seven to support national reforms in government and the civil service, two to support journalists as they come to grips with their new responsibilities in a democratic society, and one in the tertiary education sector, following a series of faculty-strengthening education projects that have been ongoing since the early 1990s.

The Consolidation of Democracy through Strengthening of Journalism project offers direct support to working journalists.



Top: Mongolia is going through a crisis in health care. Of the previously existing 320 maternity hostels, 50 per cent have now closed and an increasing number of deliveries are taking place at home, resulting in a rise in the maternal mortality rate.

At a maternity hostel in Bulgan, a small town in the Gobi desert, a young woman and her two day old baby will stay until she is strong enough to travel the long distance home.

Bottom: Three roommates in a rural boarding school in Bulgan. Mongolia's education system, once exceptionally good, is in a state of deep crisis, especially primary and basic education. Priority is being given to maintaining the system of rural boarding schools to provide education to the children of nomadic families.



An independent media very quickly appeared in Mongolia after transition. Residents in Ulaan Baatar now have a large selection of newspapers to choose from.

*In the Gobi desert, a woman travels alone with her camels.
Mongolian women are strong and self-reliant, qualities that have
always been necessary for survival on the steppe.*



In Deren, an isolated community in the Gobi Desert, water is collected from a handpump installed by UNDP.



Six journalism centres throughout the country offer hands-on training courses and access to news and information from international and Mongolian sources.

At the aimag level, Citizen Information Service Centres will be custom tailored to the information needs of each aimag's residents. These centres will increase the free flow of information from the capital, which is currently hampered by poor communications infrastructure.

Decentralization, governance and economic transition

The Government has wisely foreseen the need to engage in a fundamental shift in how Mongolia is governed. Not only should it provide institutions that can address the social and economic shocks of the 1990s, but it also must provide a stable and efficient policy to ensure a prosperous and secure future for Mongolia.

Decentralization in government administration is a cornerstone of the Government's policy to make managers of public services more responsive to local people's needs. In an ambitious programme to decentralize and consolidate democracy in Mongolia, the Government has promised to devolve decision-making more and more to the local level. The UNDP plays a key role in ensuring this process continues and that local politicians acquire the skills necessary to handle these new responsibilities.

A Respect for Nature

Mongolia's flora, fauna and unspoiled landscapes are at a watershed. Mongolians have traditionally had a respect for the natural environment as a source of food and shelter from the harsh climate. These close ties have meant that environmental preservation and respect for nature form an integral part of cultural traditions. As far back as the reign of Chingis Khan in the 13th century, Mongolia has had nature reserves. The new social and economic imperatives have put a strain both on these traditions and the environment, with a corresponding stress on Mongolians.

Semi-nomadic herding still forms the backbone of the country, and the pressures of the 90s have only re-inforced this. Many Mongolians have turned to herding as the only guarantee of a steady supply of food and economic well-being.



Above: A steppe farmer proudly shows off the tractor he received when collective farms were privatized. Now, he and eight others grow potatoes.

Right: In Dalanzaddgad, a small town in the South Gobi desert, a loan of 2 million tugriqs (US\$250) enabled a former head of a collective farm to start a business making traditional boots and horse blankets. The workshop employs 16 people.





Above: Most Mongolians have to carry water twice a day from wells and handpumps to their houses. In Tsetserleg, water is delivered early in the morning and in the evening by a water carrier whose cart is drawn by a heidsek — a cross between a cow and yak.

Right: A UNDP project using straw-bale construction was launched in Ulaan Baatar and in 10 provinces and will reduce the amount of forest cut for construction and fuel. Straw-bale houses cost half as much as standard construction and reduce heating costs by 90 per cent. One hundred schools and clinics will be built over three years by work crews trained by the project, providing jobs for more than 1,000 people.

The environment is regularly challenged by natural disasters. In 1996, a rash of forest fires destroyed large swathes of land and caused extensive economic and environmental damage. Floods, heavy snowfall, extremely low temperatures, strong winds, dust storms, and earthquakes are all natural hazards for Mongolia.

Keeping Mongolia green

UNDP's mandate in environmental protection and preservation is reflected in its support to the Government. As Mongolia addresses the challenge of up-holding international conventions to which it is signatory, it must sustain and preserve a decent and dignified lifestyle for all its citizens.

In the area of disaster management, the Government's is emphasizing preventative measures as much as relief. UNDP support is focused on an extensive campaign for preparedness, technical support and capacity building to deal with both natural and man-made disasters.

The flagship programme for the environment is the Government's Mongolia Agenda for the 21st Century (MAP 21). The Government's continuing biodiversity programme, under the auspices of the Global Environmental Fund, has already shown results, with the on-going mapping of the country's biodiversity for future generations.

Two new projects were initiated in 1997: the sustainable development electronic information network reaches out to people in remote and isolated locations. The energy efficient social service provision project has introduced straw-bale construction, an environmentally-friendly, energy-efficient and pollution-reducing building technology. This technology uses straw for insulation within the walls of buildings. Schools and health clinics will be built with straw insulation by work crews trained by the project.



The environmental challenges Mongolia faces are acknowledged by the world community as both requiring a global and a national commitment. UNDP acts as conduit for a number of globally-supported programmes focused on local action. The axiom "think globally, act locally" is the principle guiding the UNDP/Mongolian Partnership for Progress' environmental activities. ■

Partnership for Progress is a publication of the United Nations Development Programme in Mongolia.

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Cable: UNDEVPRO, Mongolia

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Writers: Ruth Massey and Dorothy Dwyer

Designer: Kristin Mooney

Photographer: Ruth Massey

Cover: Herders still thrive in Mongolia's vast spaces. Half the population moves by horse and camel, herding their sheep, cattle, and goats through an annual cycle of pastures.





online magazine

Issue 2



May 12, 1999

UN agencies
About the
contributors
Talk to us
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Modern Life



Ribertsueg, one of Mongolia's top models

"Someone should build a place like Disneyland": Are Mongolians drowning in bars?

In 1992 author Nick Middleton published a book called *The Last Disco in Outer Mongolia*. As is implied in the title, along with some insightful observations about Mongolia before the Russians pulled out, he also bemoans the paucity of bars and discos in the country.

Young Mongolian entrepreneurs lead the business revolution

Under communism, L. Bayargalan studied fungus. Under capitalism, she's used her scientific knowledge to build her own organic vegetable business.

Meat, milk and Mongolia.

A stroll down any Mongolian residential street is usually the first introduction to a visitor of the savoury odours of the traditional meals of this country.

Money may be tight, but Mongolians are still going online, boosting up and sending emails.

Inside Mongolia's former Construction College, a slab of brightly painted concrete overlooking Ulaanbaatar, murals on the peeling walls still depict beefy workers engaged in heroic labour. The stern visages of Marx, Engels and Lenin loom above the central staircase.

"Depositors' blues: Banks fail to reform and become solvent

Mongolia is currently in the clutches of a full-blown banking crisis. On the surface life appears normal on the streets of the capital. Workers busily renovate apartments to open as shops and restaurants, while other workers march to the many building sites throughout Ulaanbaatar.

Mongolia's top fashion designer, Soljoolmaa, gives Ger a quick lesson on Mongolian clothing

Last year's fashion runways were dominated by one influence: Mongolian traditional design.

Girl power in Mongolia: What is the status of gender after nine years of transition?

In the last few years relations between Mongolian men and women is attracting very much attention.

Religion in modern Mongolia: has freedom brought stronger religious beliefs?

In Mongolia already ten years has passed since Mongolians were allowed to practice their beliefs freely. The issue of religion, which was a closed topic for 70 years, came into the open, with many Buddhist monasteries that were closed during the first years of the communist revolution.



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Your Window to Mongolia





High school students participating in the debate competition.

New generation debate new values

By: Mike Greenblatt, Assistant North American Editor, *Blue Sky*

The generation gap is a familiar phenomenon in the American workplace. Young people have different values than their parents. But it is a gap that is narrowing in schools in which students of diverse backgrounds are learning together. At the Blue Sky Schools, students are learning together in a way that is not only possible, but also profitable. As the Blue Sky Schools continue to grow, the gap between the two generations is closing.

A gap in values is a familiar phenomenon in the American workplace. Young people have different values than their parents. But it is a gap that is narrowing in schools in which students of diverse backgrounds are learning together. At the Blue Sky Schools, students are learning together in a way that is not only possible, but also profitable. As the Blue Sky Schools continue to grow, the gap between the two generations is closing.

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(Continued on page 2)

Can Mongolia compete?

The information revolution is the key

By: Stephen M. Haggard

During the past few years, Mongolia has been the subject of intense international interest. The country's rich natural resources, particularly its vast herds of livestock, have attracted the attention of the world's major powers. In addition, the country's strategic location in the heart of Asia has made it a key player in the region's economic and political development. The country's rich natural resources, particularly its vast herds of livestock, have attracted the attention of the world's major powers. In addition, the country's strategic location in the heart of Asia has made it a key player in the region's economic and political development.

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